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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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The Daily and Weekly Commercial—Newspaper Decisions.—1. Any one who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice, whether it is ordered in his name or another's, whether he has subscribed or not—is responsible for the payment.

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FIRST EDITION.

HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

Petition from Pittsburgh for Committee to Investigate Water Works.

Pittsburgh Tax Bill Recommitted.

Senate Passes One Bill Finally.

Governor's Second Levee To-Night.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, PA., February 16, 1876.

SENATE.

The Senate met at 8 P. M., the Lieutenant Governor in the Chair.

Bills on First Reading—Act for the more certain and equal assessment of taxes in cities of the second class of the Commonwealth. On motion of Mr. McNeill, recommitted to the Committee on Municipal Affairs. The above bill refers to Pittsburgh. It empowers the Judges of the Courts of Common Pleas every third year to appoint three resident citizens as a Board of Assessors, to serve for a term of three years, one of whom shall be designated Chief Assessor and shall receive an annual salary of $2,500. The bill will not pass, in its present shape, either House.

Adjourned.

HOUSE.

The House met at 7:30 P. M.

Bills on Third Reading—Senate amendments to the act to enable assignees for the benefit of creditors to make sales of real estate encumbered by liens. Mr. Spang supported its passage in an able and eloquent speech, while Mr. Christy warmly opposed the same. Passed—yeas 132, nays 5.

Bills Read in Place.—Mr. Huhn—Act to enable corporations to perform certain acts authorized by their charter when the mode of procedure is not specified therein.

Mr. Hall—Act relating to city passenger railways, allowing them to use any mechanical contrivance or power other than steam.

Act to amend the Criminal Code.

Mr. Barnett—Act relating to the repeal of the Black law of Cecil township, Washington county.

Mr. Large—Act to repeal the act relating to the execution and transfer of notes given for patent rights.

Mr. Carson—Act fixing and regulating the number, election and terms of office of Select Councils in cities of the second class, providing for the abolishment of Select Councils in said cities as at present constituted.

Mr. Carson also presented the following petition from prominent citizens of Pittsburgh:

Before the passage of the act to authorize the issue of bonds for the purpose of completing the new water works, your petitioners pray that a committee may be appointed to investigate matters, inquire into the manner in which the proceeds of bonds heretofore issued for the water works and under the Penn Avenue act have been expended; whether there have been issued and disposed of more bonds for water and the Penn Avenue act than appeared in the last annual report of the City Controller; also asking that the status of assets of the Water Department, whether the same are not sufficient, if realized, to pay the water works in pumping condition; whether any of said assets have been diverted from their proper use.

[Signed] THOMAS DONNELLY, M. P. & P. F. HAWLEY, THOMAS MELLON, JOHN H. SAWYER, JOHN W. RIDDLE, A. H. ENGLISH & CO., JAMES P. BARR and many others.

Mr. Carson offered the following preamble and resolution:

WHEREAS, The city of Pittsburgh has memorialized the Legislature to increase its bonded indebtedness to the amount of one-fourth of one percentum of its assessed valuation, for the purpose of completing the water works of said city; and

WHEREAS, Gross mismanagement and carelessness on the part of the Councils of said city and the Commissioners having charge of certain departments, is alleged; *Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to inquire for information of this House.

Considerable debate ensued upon the above resolutions, when, by unanimous consent, the whole matter was referred to the Committee on Judiciary General.

Bills on Second Reading—Supplement to the act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of certain corporations. Passed.

Supplement to the act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of certain corporations, authorizing the formation and regulation of wharf companies and corporations for the encouragement and protection of trade and commerce. Passed.

Supplement to the act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of certain corporations, approved April 29, 1874. Referred to the Committee on General Judiciary.

Supplement to the act to authorize the Governor to appoint additional notaries public. Passed.

Adjourned.

The Governor gives his second public reception at the Executive Mansion Thursday evening, February 17th.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Movement to Impeach a Judge and Get Rid of Moses and Whipper.

CHARLESTON, February 16.—The House of Representatives has appointed a committee to prepare articles of impeachment against Judge Montgomery Moses. The charge is that he applied trust funds to his own use. Montgomery Moses is a brother of Chief Justice Moses and an uncle of ex-Governor Moses. He has been on the circuit bench for several years.

CHARLESTON, February 16.—The House of Representatives to-day, by a vote of 91 to nothing, adopted articles of impeachment against Judge Montgomery Moses. They were introduced in the Senate to legislate out of office Moses and Whipper, recently elected Circuit Judges.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

The Danger of Arresting a Kentuckian.

CINCINNATI, February 16.—Sheriff Springmeier, of this county, arrested Wm. Southard, at Elliston, Kentucky, a few days since, for obtaining goods under false pretenses. In making the arrest he was assisted by Pearce Kent, a farmer residing near Elliston. A number of residents of Elliston considered that Kent, in this, had turned traitor to his State, and Monday night last set upon him with ax helves, nearly killing him. Kent is seventy years old. Sheriff Springmeier has gone to Elliston to arrest the assailants, and it is anticipated that he will meet with resistance, as the mob is reported defiant and threatening.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Probabilities for To-day.—High barometer, northwest to northeastwinds, slightly warmer and clear or partly cloudy weather.

A Burmese embassy has arrived at Suez, on its way to Europe.

It is estimated that the Democratic majority in Texas is fifty thousand.

The Empress of Austria will go to England early in March to visit her sister, ex-Queen Caroline, of Naples.

Machinery for three complete sawmills has been shipped from a manufactory in Erie to the Black Hills during the past month.

A disastrous fire broke out at Rutland, Vt., last night, destroying the Bates House, *Herald* office and several other buildings. The loss is not yet ascertained.

Both Houses of the New York Legislature yesterday adopted resolutions protesting against the granting of subsidies by Congress to railroads, &c.

The Western Union Telegraph Company, following the lead of the Atlantic and Pacific Company, has reduced its rates from twenty to thirty per cent.

There are indications that the recommendations of the Louisiana legislative committee for the impeachment of the Governor and State Treasurer will not be adopted by the House.

A dispatch from Schenectady, N. Y., says a freshet in the Mohawk Valley Tuesday night covered the Central Railroad tracks with three feet of water, and, in some places, with ice piled twenty feet high. A portion of the bridge at Amsterdam was carried away, and the lower portion of that place was flooded, sweeping away several houses and drowning one child. The lower part of Schenectady is flooded. The water rose fifteen and a half feet.

XLIV. CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 19, 1876.

SENATE.

Mr. ALCORN made a personal explanation regarding the Washington dispatch published in the Chicago *Times*. When he left the office of Governor, in 1871, he left Mississippi in a state of repose and quiet not since enjoyed there. Who were responsible for the present condition of affairs there, he might at some future time explain.

Mr. WITHERS presented a petition of Joseph Zeger, asking for compensation as United States Senator from Virginia. Referred.

Mr. ANTHONY submitted a concurrent resolution that reports in the *Congressional Record* shall be an accurate transcript of the proceedings and debates of the two Houses of Congress, and that no speech shall be published therein which was not spoken in the Senate or House of Representatives; and that such speeches shall be printed as they were actually delivered, without omission, alteration or addition, except verbal alterations made by the author of the speech and by no other person; and that when speeches are revised by their authors for correction they shall be returned to the Reporter of the House in which they were delivered within one week, and if not so returned they shall then be printed in the *Congressional Record* from the original notes of the Reporter. Ordered printed and to lie on the table. Mr. ANTHONY gave notice that he would call it up for consideration to-morrow.

Mr. CONKLING, from the Judiciary Committee, reported adversely on the bill introduced by Mr. Merrimon on the 13th of December last, to repeal so much of section 3,486 of the Revised Statutes as forbids the payment of accounts, claims and demands therein named and all clauses and laws forbidding the payment thereof, and appropriating money to pay the same when duly established, and it was indefinitely postponed. The bill refers to claims for carrying mails before the war.

Mr. CONKLING, from the same committee, reported, with amendments, the Senate bill conferring exclusive jurisdiction over Indian reservations upon the United States courts, and for the punishment of crimes committed by and against Indians. Placed on the calendar.

Mr. WRIGHT, from the Committee on Claims, reported adversely the bill to reopen, state and settle the claims of the several States against the United States for advances made in the war of 1812, and it was indefinitely postponed.

Mr. KELLY called up the Senate bill for the sale of timber lands in the States of California and Oregon and the Territories of the United States. The bill was a copy of the one passed by the House last session and lost in the Senate for want of time. It has been fully considered by the Committee on Public Lands and reported favorably by that committee. It only carried into effect the recommendations of the Land Office on the subject.

Mr. McMILLAN submitted an amendment to the second section, so as to provide that any person desiring to avail himself of the provisions of the act shall, in addition to the other requirements mentioned in the bill, declare that he has not executed any mortgage or other instrument upon the lands or any part thereof, by or under which title may be vested in any other person.

Messrs. Sargent, Oglesby and Sherman favored the passage of the bill.

Pending discussion, Mr. EDMUNDS moved to lay aside the pending bill and take up the Pinchback case.

Mr. MORTON opposed the motion on the ground that several Senators were absent, and he said he desired to have a full Senate when the vote was taken.

The question on taking up the resolution, a division was called for and resulted: yeas 26, nays 24.

Mr. LOGAN demanded the yeas and nays, and the motion to take up the resolution was lost—yeas 30, nays 33, as follows:

Bayard,	Goldthwaite,	Johnston,	Randolph,
Bogy,	Hamilton,	Ransom,	
Booth,	Jones, Fla.,	Sanlsbury,	
Caperton,	Kernan,	Stevenson,	
Cockrell,	Key,	Thurman,	
Cooper,	McCreery,	Wallace,	
Eaton,	McDonald,	West,	
Dennis,	Maxey,	Whyte,	
Eaton,	Merrimon,	Wilkerson—30.	
Edmunds,	Norwood,		

NAYS.

Alcorn,	Frelinghuysen,	Morrill, Vt.,	
Allison,	Hamlin,	Morton,	
Boutwell,	Hamilton,	Oglesby,	
Bruce,	Harvey,	Paddock,	
Cameron, Pa.,	Hitchcock,	Patterson,	
Cameron, Wis.,	Howe,	Pierce,	
Clayton,	Ingalls,	Spencer,	
Conkling,	Jones, Nev.,	Sherman,	
Conover,	Logan,	Saulsbury,	
Dawes,	McMillan,	Wadleigh,	
Dorsey.	Morrill, Me.,	Wright—33.	

Mr. FERRY, of Michigan, who would have voted in the negative, was paired with Mr. Gordon, who would have voted in the affirmative. Those not voting were Messrs. Anthony, Burnside, Christiancy, Cragin, Kelly, Mitchell and Robertson.

Mr. STEVENSON introduced a bill to provide for the purchase of a suitable building for the United States Court at Louisville. Referred.

On motion of Mr. MERRIMON, the vote by which his bill in regard to the payment of claims for carrying mails before the war was indefinitely postponed, was reconsidered and it was placed on the calendar with the adverse report.

Mr. MORRILL, of Maine, moved to lay aside the pending order, being the bill in regard to the sale of timber on public lands, and take up for consideration the conference report, submitted yesterday, on the joint resolution to pay interest on the 3:65 District of Columbia bonds. Agreed to.

Mr. BAYARD said he hoped the Senate would take some action upon the Conference Committee, as it proposed to continue the Board of Audit, although the Senate had declared by the adoption of that board.

After discussion upon this point, and without action, the Senate went into executive session and soon adjourned.

HOUSE.

Mr. STONE introduced a bill fixing the rates of compensation of railroad companies for the transportation of United States mails.

Mr. CLYMER offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of War to furnish the House with the name, residence and date of the appointment of the several post-traders. Passed.

Mr. STENGER offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Interior to furnish the House with a list of all persons connected with the Interior Department in default to the Government, with all the information relating thereto. Referred.

Mr. WADDELL introduced a bill authorizing the Clerk of the House to pay one month's pay to all discharged employees of the House of Representatives. Referred.

The SPEAKER then proceeded to call the committees for reports.

Mr. J. D. WILLIAMS, of Michigan, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported back the bill to extend the time for filing claims for additional pensions. Passed.

Mr. HOLMAN moved an amendment extending the time for filing claims until July 8th. Adopted, and bill passed.

Mr. FAULKNER, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, made an adverse report on the proposition to give notice of the termination of the treaty of February 22, 1871, with the North German Confederation. Laid on the table.

Mr. CROUNSE offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Interior to furnish to the House a copy of the report of the Government Director of the Union Pacific Railroad for the year 1875. Referred.

Mr. SOUTHARD, from the Committee on Territories, reported a bill to amend the act of the 3d of March, 1865, for the admission of Colorado as a State. Committee of the Committee of the Whole.

The House then, upon motion of Mr. SOUTHARD, went into Committee of the Whole, Mr Blackburn in the Chair, on the Colorado bill. The only changes made by this bill in the enabling act of last March, are a provision that all voters under the law of the Territory shall be entitled to vote on the ratification or rejection, and a provision appropriating $20,000 to pay the expenses of the Constitutional Convention. After a long discussion the committee rose and the bill passed without the yeas and nays.

The House then took up, as the special order, the bill to reorganize the judiciary. The report of the Judiciary Committee, made by Mr. McCrary, contains the following statement: "Your committee do not hesitate to say that any legislation which proposes to relieve the supreme Court, by improving or destroying the right of appeal as it now exists, prior to the act of the last Congress, will be unsatisfactory. It is, therefore, in the opinion of your committee, very important that if any part of the appellate jurisdiction of the supreme Court be taken from it, the same should be lodged in an intermediate court of appeals, to sit in each of several circuits, and to be composed of the Supreme Court Justice assigned to the circuit, the Circuit Judge and the several district judges; and this is the plan proposed in the bill under consideration." The report sums up, by giving the following reasons for the bill:

First, it will establish a Court of Appeals of very high standing and authority, with convenient distance from the residence of parties litigant, which will be able to hear and determine finally, with unquestioned accuracy, all cases involving not more than $10,000 and not involving any question of such general importance as to require the decision of the Supreme Court. These two considerations, bringing a Court of Appeals within a convenient distance from the residence of parties litigant and securing a prompt final decision, are both very important. The importance of the former will be appreciated when we consider that on an appeal to the Supreme Court from the decision of a Circuit or District Court, under the law as it now stands, involving in many cases a trial in a distance of from 1,200 to 3,000 miles from the place of the trial below; and the importance of the second will be appreciated when the vast amount of such an appeal also, as the law now is, involves in many cases the parties are willing to forego the valuable and important privilege of oral argument) of from three to five years.

Second, the relief from the present burden from the necessity of hearing a large class of cases, reduce its docket to such an extent as to enable it to hear appeals and writs of error with promptness, will confine its labors to those great and important questions which ought to occupy its attention, and will give it ample time and a proper opportunity to consider those questions with that deliberation and care which their importance demands.

Third, it will facilitate the administration of justice in the lower courts. It will relieve the dockets of the Circuit Courts, now greatly overcrowded in many of the States, by relieving those courts from the trial of appeals and by enabling parties to bring and defend suits therein at places more convenient to their homes.

Fourth, these advantages are all to be secured by the passage of the bill under consideration without the creating of a single additional judgeship.

Fifth, the measure is one of economy. As the law now stands, separate juries are required for Circuit and District Courts. By holding courts simultaneously in all the States and providing, as the bill does, that the panel of jurors selected and summoned for the District Court shall also be the panel for the Circuit Courts, a very large saving will be saved to the United States, and the heavy cost to the people as well as to the Government, of appeals to the Supreme Court will also, in many cases, be saved. The cost of holding courts of appeals will be much less than the saving in the other direction.

Mr. KNOTT, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, enlarged upon the reasons set forth in the report, in favor of the passage of the bill.

Mr. LAWRENCE moved to amend the bill by substituting Cincinnati for Louisville, and argued in favor of the amendment.

Mr. BRADFORD moved to substitute Mobile for New Orleans.

Mr. CONGER moved to amend by making the Court of Appeals of Chicago the court to which appeals shall be taken in cases in the Eastern and Western Districts of Michigan.

Mr. COCHRAN moved an amendment requiring a Court of Appeals to be held ultimately in Pittsburgh.

Mr. WELLS moved to substitute Jackson for New Orleans.

Mr. ROGERS moved to reduce the limit of value from $10,000 to $5,000.

Mr. O'BRIEN moved to substitute Baltimore for Richmond.

Mr. WILSHIRE moved to substitute Little Rock for St. Louis.

Mr. BAKER moved to substitute Indianapolis for St. Louis.

Mr. BAYNE moved to substitute for Louisville the words "Louisville, Cincinnati and Cleveland, successively."

Various other amendments were offered, but none of them was acted on; they are to be considered to-morrow.

The House adjourned, the Speaker obtaining for himself leave of absence till Monday next, in order, he said, that he might pay a little more attention to his health.

THE BABCOCK TRIAL.

General Williams Opens for the Defense.

Explanation of the Dispatches.

ST. LOUIS, February 16.—Immediately upon the opening of the United States Circuit Court this morning, ex-Attorney General Williams rose and addressed the jury, opening the defense of General Babcock. The court room was thronged, the greater portion of the audience being attorneys. Very few of the Government witnesses were present, most of those from Washington having been discharged from service and allowed to leave the city. General Williams devoted considerable time to an argument of the probabilities in the case and to a criticism of the evidence for the Government, assuming that what the Government had presented was competent evidence, which was by no means admitted. General Williams said the case might present some suspicious circumstances, but by no means the ground on which to base a conviction. He then proceeded with some explanations which would throw a different light upon the communications between Babcock and the ring. At that time, he said, Joyce and McDonald were trusted officials, men of influence and possessing the confidence of good people. Babcock, on the other hand, was a warm hearted, confiding, generous man, who did not give up a friendship, once cemented, for the whispers of calumny. Everything presented by the prosecution was complete, and could not but leave a painful uncertainty in every mind as to whether it was to convey a proper suspicion, or simply indicate a weakness of judgment to which every one was liable. The quantity of this kind of evidence, said General Williams, avails nothing. A house is made of brick, but a million of bricks scattered over an acre of ground does not make a house any more than two bricks do.

General Williams then traced Babcock's military career from West Point, which he eulogized as a place where honor and honesty were inculcated, and where thieves and robbers were not educated. He told of defendant's service in the late war, and how he rose to be Chief of Engineers in the Ninth Army Corps, and afterwards to be on the staff of General Grant, with the rank of Brevet Brigadier General. A good deal of attention was given to General Babcock's relations to the President, and the confidence reposed in him as Private Secretary to the President, in one sense. Generally, Williams said he became a part of the Executive. His official delinquencies would more or less reflect upon and degrade the Chief Executive of the Nation. No ingratitude would be so black as his if he would bring dishonor on one of the highest marks of confidence in him

While explaining some of the telegrams between Babcock and Joyce and McDonald, the speaker referred especially to the "Sylph" dispatch, and called it the pivotal point of the prosecution. If Babcock sent that telegram for any criminal purpose, he took the most course to accomplish it, because if he had sent that telegram over his own name, much of its significance would have been lost. Yet he sent it in his own handwriting, leaving the proof that he sent it easy to procure. The "Sylph" signature was a part of the thoughtlessness or playfulness, of which all of us are guilty at some time or other. The speaker here referred to the letter stolen from Rogers and given by McDonald to Babcock. McDonald had given it to Babcock to protect that blackmailing was being carried on here, and had convinced him that it was his duty to stop it. He took it to Douglass and told him there was something wrong. He didn't hear of the letter again till the next Sunday, when he met Douglass and learned that the mail had been given up. McDonald had discovered this fact a few days before, and had sent his "dead dog" telegram to Joyce, after which he started for St. Louis. If Babcock had been so conscious, would he not have told McDonald of the abandonment? But he did not. He found that when Babcock found it out, four days later, he telegraphed McDonald that he had succeeded in convincing Douglass that the mail had been for blackmailing and that Brooks and Hoag would not go. That McDonald's statement was partially true, too, has been proven beyond doubt, as at that very time Hoag, one of the men whose name he made use of, received in his pocket a $10,000 bribe, paid to him by the ring.

General Williams next referred to the dispatch of December 5, 1874, which is one of the three telegrams not passed on by the Court, which reads as follows: "Have not heard that anybody has gone or is going." He said Babcock does not remember having sent it, and hence requires the Government to prove it. Babcock was in intimate relations with the President, and it was the custom of officers all over the country to address him relative to anything they desired to find out or accomplish. Babcock, knowing Joyce as only an honest official, was constantly receiving letters from him, whether agents were coming here, as he answered thousands of others. No one suspected at that time that anything was being done by anything but his duty toward the Government, and hence the telegram was entirely innocent. Babcock was not an interested friend of the ring, for the reason that at the very time when he sent this telegram the ring had split, Douglass and Brooks was in New York intending to come here. This shows Babcock ignorant of affairs, and he should certainly have known and had he held the relations with the ring that are charged.

Illustrative of the practices of McDonald was the telegram, "Had a long ride with the President," &c., which is one of those that, for the purpose of this was to enable Joyce to show this to the distillers and convince them that the President was "hob-nobbing" with McDonald and winking at the conspiracy. Yet the President testifies that he was riding out one day, when he saw McDonald and asked him to walk and asked him to ride with him. During that ride nothing was said relative to St. Louis affairs. It is such little incidents as this which have placed the President in the position, which have occasioned the daily avalanche of newspaper correspondence which is directed at the President.

The testimony of Everest shows another trick of Joyce. He didn't dare, personally or privately in the postoffice, as was natural to a criminal act, but he got $1,000, paraded two envelopes addressed to Babcock and very pretended to put money in each and sent them by Everest to the mail. It was a very plausible trick of a desperate villain to convince the distillers, through Everest, of their security. That no money was sent to Babcock would be proved to the satisfaction of the jury before the case closed. The people would see and will soon show far more plainly, that an attempt was made to sacrifice Babcock in order to serve the fraudulent purpose of McDonald and others.

Much stress had been placed on the fact that Babcock had correspondence with McDonald under cover of Major Grimes, but let this be explained. It was an intimate relation that all the Government officials here were in the ring, and at Washington it was thought that the distillers were working in charge of the Government authorities by making indiscriminate charges. Babcock was a warm friend of McDonald and believed him innocent. The newspapers had already printed the names of many persons about the country as implicated in trivial circumstances a guilty meaning, and Babcock very naturally shrank from allowing the fact of his correspondence with McDonald to become known, knowing that it would be interpreted as evidence of guilt. The contents of those letters had not been shown, and they could not be proved as of guilty import. It will be shown, furthermore, that this man Hoag was in the ring, giving information as early as May, 1874, that he was enjoying the confidence of the defendant he was carrying bribes from the ring. Babcock had no means of obtaining information from the Government, but Hoag had, and he probably sent the information.

Evidence will be addduced to show that Babcock had no part in inducing President Grant to revoke the order transferring Supervisory and revenue agents, but, by the President's own deposition, it will be proved that this revocation was caused by the importunities and through the representations and influence of Supervisor Bell.

General Williams closed with quite a brilliant peroration, in which he asked justice of the jury, and he confidently expected their verdict would be a triumphant acquittal.

General A. L. Humphreys, Chief of the Engineers Corps, United States Army, was put on the stand and testified to having known Babcock since 1862; he has met him at all times at the Department of Public Buildings, and the Department of Justice, and the aqueduct at Washington; with the exception of the Capitol grounds and the Treasury Department, he has had charge of all public buildings and grounds, and has performed his duties admirably as an engineer officer and a dispensing officer, handling $400,000 annually; his standing in the army is that of any officer of integrity, high character and ability. Knows Joyce, his standing in Washington is of like character.

D. W. Mahon, First Officer of the Treasury of the United States, was next examined and testified to having known defendant four years; audited his accounts as Superintendent of Public Buildings, &c.; the total disbursements were $2,200,000; his accounts have all been settled; he has not been a bonded officer during the time I have known him; his standing, general reputation, &c., so far as I have heard from the citizens of those in Washington, have been good.

Jas. G. Berrett, ex-Mayor and ex-Postmaster of Washington, testified: I have known Gen. Babcock six years socially and from observation, as any gentleman would know another in a city of that kind. Gen. Babcock's character and standing have been good; his administration of the Public Buildings and Grounds has given general satisfaction; his integrity is unquestioned.

General N. P. Banks, member of Congress from Massachusetts, testified: I have known defendant from his boyhood up; was with him in the early part of the war; I have since known him at Washington. His general reputation for integrity, capacity and fidelity has been very good. I know much of the duties of Secretary to the Executive, and have had frequent intercourse with General Babcock as such Secretary; his manner of discharging his duties was always prompt, intelligent and upright, leaving a strongly favorably impression upon me.

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The testimony of Everest shows another trick of Joyce. He didn't dare, personally or privately in the postoffice, as was natural to a criminal act, but he got $1,000, paraded two envelopes addressed to Babcock and very pretended to put money in each and sent them by Everest to the mail. It was a very plausible trick of a desperate villain to convince the distillers, through Everest, of their security. That no money was sent to Babcock would be proved to the satisfaction of the jury before the case closed. The people would see and will soon show far more plainly, that an attempt was made to sacrifice Babcock in order to serve the fraudulent purpose of McDonald and others.

Much stress had been placed on the fact that Babcock had correspondence with McDonald under cover of Major Grimes, but let this be explained. It was an intimate relation that all the Government officials here were in the ring, and at Washington it was thought that the distillers were working in charge of the Government authorities by making indiscriminate charges. Babcock was a warm friend of McDonald and believed him innocent. The newspapers had already printed the names of many persons about the country as implicated in trivial circumstances a guilty meaning, and Babcock very naturally shrank from allowing the fact of his correspondence with McDonald to become known, knowing that it would be interpreted as evidence of guilt. The contents of those letters had not been shown, and they could not be proved as of guilty import. It will be shown, furthermore, that this man Hoag was in the ring, giving information as early as May, 1874, that he was enjoying the confidence of the defendant he was carrying bribes from the ring. Babcock had no means of obtaining information from the Government, but Hoag had, and he probably sent the information.

Evidence will be addduced to show that Babcock had no part in inducing President Grant to revoke the order transferring Supervisory and revenue agents, but, by the President's own deposition, it will be proved that this revocation was caused by the importunities and through the representations and influence of Supervisor Bell.

General Williams closed with quite a brilliant peroration, in which he asked justice of the jury, and he confidently expected their verdict would be a triumphant acquittal.

General A. L. Humphreys, Chief of the Engineers Corps, United States Army, was put on the stand and testified to having known Babcock since 1862; he has met him at all times at the Department of Public Buildings, and the Department of Justice, and the aqueduct at Washington; with the exception of the Capitol grounds and the Treasury Department, he has had charge of all public buildings and grounds, and has performed his duties admirably as an engineer officer and a dispensing officer, handling $400,000 annually; his standing in the army is that of any officer of integrity, high character and ability. Knows Joyce, his standing in Washington is of like character.

D. W. Mahon, First Officer of the Treasury of the United States, was next examined and testified to having known defendant four years; audited his accounts as Superintendent of Public Buildings, &c.; the total disbursements were $2,200,000; his accounts have all been settled; he has not been a bonded officer during the time I have known him; his standing, general reputation, &c., so far as I have heard from the citizens of those in Washington, have been good.

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General Williams then traced Babcock's military career from West Point, which he eulogized as a place where honor and honesty were inculcated, and where thieves and robbers were not educated. He told of defendant's service in the late war, and how he rose to be Chief of Engineers in the Ninth Army Corps, and afterwards to be on the staff of General Grant, with the rank of Brevet Brigadier General. A good deal of attention was given to General Babcock's relations to the President, and the confidence reposed in him as Private Secretary to the President, in one sense. Generally, Williams said he became a part of the Executive. His official delinquencies would more or less reflect upon and degrade the Chief Executive of the Nation. No ingratitude would be so black as his if he would bring dishonor on one of the highest marks of confidence in him

While explaining some of the telegrams between Babcock and Joyce and McDonald, the speaker referred especially to the "Sylph" dispatch, and called it the pivotal point of the prosecution. It Babcock sent that telegram for any criminal purpose, he took the most

The Commercial.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1876.

A CONVENTION of County School Superintendents will be held in the Normal School building at Indiana, Pa., to-day.

"A BILL to close American workshops" is the expressive title given by a State exchange to MORRISON'S so-called tariff bill.

THERE is a good deal of able-bodied cowardice in the United States Senate. PINCKBACK'S case has been again postponed.

THE Republican gains at the city, county and borough elections of this State, last Tuesday, were general. The Centennial year opens auspiciously.

MEN who name their sons in honor of the murderer of President LINCOLN seem to be the kind of men whom the Democratic leaders most delight to honor.

THE Democratic party considers that the rebel army graduated higher-toned patriots than the Union ranks in which devotion to country was taught and practiced.

THE New York Produce Exchange has been, as we predicted would be the case, compelled to rescind its resolution charging an admission fee for reporters. The rule was a very foolish product.

THE Democrats are raking their party with a fine tooth comb to find a man whom they think can carry off the Presidential prize, but they don't appear to meet with any encouraging degree of success.

THE distillers of Eastern Pennsylvania propose to hold a convention in Reading, soon, in which the brewers and tobacco men will be invited to participate. The object is said to be to secure further relief from taxation.

THE *Financial Chronicle* very sensibly and forcibly objects to so much looking to Congress for the regulation of business, a habit which has sprung up within the past twenty years, and which may wisely be abandoned. What is most needed, now, is the safe employment of capital.

THE various railroads have agreed to sell tickets to Philadelphia and the Centennial at twenty-five per cent. discount. Excepting, that is to say, the Union Pacific Company, which haughtily refuses to make the slightest reduction. The completion of the Texas Pacific road would soon cut the comb of JAY GOULD'S avaracious insolence.

THE Supreme Court of the United States, in two separate cases, has just affirmed the principle that upon a final settlement between a contractor and a department of the Government, where all the facts are known and fully understood by the parties, the settlement is equally binding upon the Government as upon the contractor. It ought never to have been disputed.

THERE will be scant sympathy for WINSLOW, when he returns. Men are to be pitied who in a fatal moment of weakness yield to temptation and forfeit in an hour the reputation which it has taken years of honest toil to establish; but the entire record of WINSLOW is one of cunning craftiness, and his recent frauds were in strict logical keeping with his whole history.

IT turns out that the report of General BABCOCK'S implication in whisky matters by certain captured papers at Springfield, Illinois, is a case of mistaken identity, and that the BABCOCK whose name is mentioned, is a citizen of that State, a prominent distiller. This puts an entirely different complexion on the correspondence which was forwarded to St. Louis as bearing upon General BABCOCK'S case. We are heartily glad of it.

THE Louisiana White Leaguers are evidently bent on precipitating an era of terror. The Democratic branch of the State Legislature has passed a resolution authorizing the appointment of one hundred sergeants-at-arms to serve without pay. OGDEN, the leader of the rebel butchers at the massacre of the Republicans in September, 1874, has been appointed centurian. Another dose of PHIL. SHERIDAN is badly needed down there.

A MEETING of the Eastern coal trade combination is to be held in New York city to-day to arrange the details of the programme for the current year. It is understood that the opening prices of manufacturing coal will be considerably less than the opening last year; probably the price at Philadelphia will be about $3 75, and at New York $4 25. The decline in consumption appears to be chiefly in the manufactories and iron foundries rather than for domestic purposes.

THE last quarterly returns of the English Registrar General afford two favorable indications with respect to the industrial condition of that country. Only in some of the agricultural counties has there been any decline in the number of marriages, the manufacturing districts maintaining their rate, and pauperism continuing to decline. The price of food was higher, and of fuel lower, than in the corresponding quarter of 1874. Marriages generally decrease as the price of food advances.

ONE source of traffic for the Northern Pacific Railroad, which is not generally known, is the carrying trade for the Western provinces of British American, which is no considerable item. It was expected to form the main support for the proposed Canadian Pacific road. The Winnepeg settlements in Manitoba now find communication with the world via the Red river of the North and the Northern Pacific Railroad. The Red River *Star*, published at Moorhead, in Clay county, Minnesota, states that the shipments on Red river, from that point to Manitoba, during the year 1875, amounted to 76,078,680 pounds, against 37,626,200 pounds in 1874, embracing every description of freight, and representing millions of dollars. This trade is of great importance to Minnesota.

ALMOST everybody is agreed that a certain amount of education on the part of all citizens of the State is necessary and essential to the permanence of popular government and to any social or political progress; and that such an amount of education cannot be secured unless some provision is made for furnishing it, either wholly or in part, at public expense. Opinions differ, however, as to the nature and the limits of this education. In Massachusetts, as in some other States, the common schools have done some years past drifting toward the classics and a university education. But the inevitable reaction has at length set in. Much dissatisfaction with the system exists in that State, whose results are said to be in no sense commensurate with the money expended, far too much having been spent on fancy school houses to the neglect of more important matters. The same trouble exists elsewhere.

HON. JOSEPH MEDILL, of Chicago, delivered an address on Municipal Government, the other day, in the course of which he said that that city government "was controlled by a set of men half politicians and half buzzard, who were banded together to keep themselves in power." It was a good deal cheaper, he thought, to support bummers and scoundrels in the poorhouse and jail than in office, and he called upon the twenty Republican clubs of the city to unite and select a list of the best men who could be induced to run for office, with as much care as if they were chosen for private business. Commenting on the address, the Buffalo *Express* observes that the decent people in Chicago, as in any other city, can have good men to transact their public business for them if they will take the trouble to organize and work for it. This is true in a nutshell. Chicago *did* have a good government a few years ago, but she supinely allowed it to be taken away. Eternal vigilence is the price of everything politically desirable,

IT WAS the satirist CHURCHILL who wrote:

> To feign a red hot zeal for freedom's cause,
> To mouth aloud for liberties and laws,
> For public good to bellow all abroad,
> Serves well the purposes of private fraud.

The Washington correspondent of the Chicago *Evening Journal* gives facts and figures to show that the jobs and treasury raids contemplated by the Bourbon Democracy, in the event of their success in the approaching Presidential campaign, aggregate the enormous sum of upwards of four hundred million dollars. It is evident that the Democratic party of to-day is as much a menacing peril to the country as it was in the time of BUCHANAN. And this not only because of its narrow theories of States rights, its upholding the right of secession, its constant attempts to vindicate the rebellion and to cast contempt and odium upon the defenders of the Union; but because the party is in the hands of able, sagacious, unscrupulous men, whose comprehensive schemes of robbery are as immense as they are outrageous, and can only succeed on the ruin of the financial honor of the Government, the utter demoralization of our politics and the complete impoverishment of the people.

THE charge is made that DAVID A. WELLS, one of the framers of the new Democratic tariff bill, was converted to the doctrines of free trade by means of arguments addressed to his pocket by English manufacturers. It is not unlikely. He spent a good deal of time at Sheffield, while abroad, hobnobbing with that class of people. And, *apropos* of this matter, here is what the newly elected President of the Chamber of Commerce of that city had to say concerning the question of American competition, at the late annual meeting of that body, as reported in the local papers:

> He said recent advices from America led him to the conclusion that there was a growing disposition to modify the exorbitant tariff which now pressed so heavily upon Sheffield goods. But from what he had seen of the manufactures of the United States, and from what he knew of the country, he did not think it was at all likely that Sheffield would ever again have anything like the trade with the United States that it had in the past. He did not think that the operation of free-trade principles, as he had seen them exemplified in Europe, would altogether apply to the United States. They had argued during the time of the free-trade agitation n in this country that protected industries failed, that the quality deteriorated, and that the enterprise of manufacturers began to stagnate, but that did not seem to apply to the American manufacturers. Whether they could make a profit or not, they would manufacture goods; and whether they could produce those goods economically or not, they would produce them of a good quality. He had never seen in his experience any established American manufacture that was not good of its kind. The working men of Sheffield thought files could not possibly be made except by hand, and that they could not be successfully manufactured by machinery. But he now learned that the Americans were producing really first-class files, which they could sell considerably lower than Sheffield files, and in all probability Sheffield would lose the bit of file trade which it now had, just as it had lost the saw trade. *Of course a modification of the tariff would give Sheffield, as well as other manufacturing towns, an advantage.*

And this is precisely what the bill in question is intended to bring about. The "recent advices" referred to in the above extract, no doubt emanated from the concoctors of the ruinous measure.

THE New York *Commercial Advertiser* gives an interesting description of the refrigerator apparatus used by the vessels engaged in the shipment of fresh beef from this country to Europe. The appliances appear to consist of little more than a large packing box or storeroom, inclosed by an iron chest, through which pipes are passed, and a constant circulation of air forced by a small independent steam engine of about one-horse power. The air thus driven into the meat chest is immediately drawn out near the bottom, and returned to the refrigerator, being used over and over. The temperature of the entire body of air is evenly preserved at near thirty-six degrees, causing a very moderate consumption of ice after the first few hours. The trade is assuming important proportions. The French authorities have investigated the subject, and satisfied themselves that American beef can be delivered at Paris at fully fifty per cent. less cost than beef of their own growing. The French Minister of Agriculture has expressed his full approval of the plan of procuring beef from this country, and the subject is also attracting marked attention in England. The London papers recently noticed the sale of forty-two tons of American beef in that market at an average of twelve cents a pound, and the account says it "sold rapidly." How that can be sold at this price at a profit, after deducting costs of transportation across the Atlantic, our cattle dealers, butchers and "middle men" can best explain. Beef treated after the manner described is said to suffer in no degree from impaired flavor. Perishable fruits have been similarly transferred with equal success. The indications are that hereafter, with refrigerator warehouses, refrigerator cars and refrigerator steamships, the trade in perishable merchandise, such as fresh meats, game, fish and fruits, will steadily grow in importance.

A PATENT case of wide public interest has just been decided by the United States Circuit Court of Michigan. The sharp manner in which the Goodyear Dental Vulcanite Company has followed up the decisists of the country is familiar to most readers. The validity of the Goodyear patent has been tested in nearly all the United States courts throughout the country, and has been everywhere affirmed. This patent, so far as could by dentists, covered a process of vulcanizing rubber, so as to render it hard and smooth for use as dental plates. The dentists thus being defeated in the prosecutions and made to pay tribute to the Goodyear Company, soon found a substitute for the rubber vulcanite ready at their hands. This is a substance known as celluloid, which, when made in dental plates, can hardly be distinguished from vulcanite. The ease with which it can be molded and colored the precise color of the palate and gums makes it a great favorite in the preparation of dental plates, and it is used by dentists almost exclusively in preference to the old material, about which the Goodyear Company has made them so much trouble in years past. The Goodyear Company, seeing the profits upon which they had counted slipping through their fingers, insisted that these new celluloid plates were an infringement on their patent. The Court, however, decided the substance to be a chemical and not a mechanical compound, and that the process of molding was not covered by the Goodyear patent. This is the first case of the kind that has been brought before any court, and was designed to be a test case. Hence the decision may justly be considered as of great importance.

THE papers announce the escape of FREDERICK A. DOCKERAY from a Spanish bastile, and it may now be in order to tell the people who DOCKERAY is. He was Collector of Customs at Jacksonville, Florida, and became a defaulter to the Government while acting in that capacity, and when called upon for the moneys due the Government, he said it was locked in the safe, of which he had lost the key. While an effort was being made to open the safe, he escaped to Key West, from whence he sailed on the expedition with which he was captured. When the safe was opened, several years after the escape of DOCKERAY, it was found that the story of there being money there was all a ruse. Perhaps MR. DOCKERAY is now prepared to pay his account to the Government.

THE United States Supreme Court a few days ago reversed the decision of the United States Circuit Court for the Eastern district of this State in an insurance case in which it was claimed by the company that the statements and declarations made in a certain application for a policy of insurance, being untrue, rendered the policy void. The Supreme Court took the same view of the matter, holding that a faithful observance of the stipulated agreement on the part of the policy holder was a prerequisite condition to the existence of liability on the part of the company.

TO-DAY is the selected date on which a report is to be made to the Congressional Democratic caucus by the joint committee appointed to frame a financial policy for that party. We hazard the prediction that no such report will be made. It is a clear case of in the woods.

A New York reporter has been studying "the signs of the times," with this result: "Yard & Furlong, lawyers," have an office in Broadway, and a few doors below their office another lawyer puts out a sign bearing the name of "Angel." "Good & Mercy" are representative batters in Wooster street. "Bearup & Carraher" carry on business in Monroe street. "Going & Grew" are candidates for public favor in Leonard street. "Pine, Twigs & Co., are weighers near the Custom House. "Westminster Abbey" is the sign of a tea dealer in Water street, and "Coffey" keeps a milk depot in Fifty-first street, Fifth avenue furnishes a "G. D. Happy Tailor." Over a Bowery basement is the sign "A Singer Tailor." "Stretch" is a tailor on Varick street, "Stitch" on Broad way, "Niedle" in Ridge street, "Cutter" on Broadway, "Taylor,' in Avenue A, and "Boch" in Sixth avenue. In Third avenue is the sign of "J. Bloch, Hats and Caps." A creaking sign that hangs from a dingy building in Ann street has the words, "A Human Cutter, Polisher and Grinder." A furnishing goods store in Chatham street exists under the name of the "Society for the Encouragement of Wearing Clean Shirts."

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Mrs. Tilton is giving lessons in music. She has faced it.

Down brakes. The Missouri Pacific Railroad is to be foreclosed.

They have a lightning lawyer in Philadelphia, named Henry Thunder.

Mr. Katte scratched through as candidate for City Engineer of St. Louis.

And now the Kansas Legislature pronounces for the repeal of the Resumption act.

A herd of 17,000 cattle is about to leave Corpus Christi, Texas, for Kansas. It will be drove.

An additional vault is to be constructed at New York for the fast accumulating silver coin.

A St. Louis woman tried to commit suicide by taking a dose of pins, but she didn't carry her point.

Plucky Phil. Sheridan has got up on his ear with reference to the troubles on the Mexican frontier.

The London *Lancet* announces that narcotics poison sleep. The somnolent *Post* should take warning.

The man with the fork in his inside is being again dished up as the principal topic of discussion in Paris.

Every one of the three thousand teachers in New Jersey will become an exhibitor at the Centennial.

Capital is afraid, and will so continue until Congress ceases to trifle with the vital interests of the country.

The novel sight was presented on Monday of boys swimming in a pond near Cincinnati. Seasonable sport, that.

Cairo, Illinois, is in an Egyptian trouble. Trade is decreasing, the population diminishing, and the river encroaching.

The American Bible Revisers have finished the Pentateuch and Psalms and are now at work on the minor prophets.

Lumbering inventions. Ten thousand models of rejected applications have just been removed to an attic in the Patent Office.

The tramps are actually capturing small towns in the Western States, and holding possession thereof until the people pay ransom.

Colonel Muckle, of the Philadelphia *Ledger*, is credited with being the first to suggest the idea of a Centennial celebration.

And now the serpentine trail of crooked whisky has been discovered away out in the rural districts of Putnam county, Ohio.

The imports of barley from the Province of Ontario into the United States last year were 8,236,282 bushels, against 4,997,427 in 1874.

Boston is still forging ahead. One lawyer expelled from the bar for perjury, and another arrested for forgery, is a part of the record for last week.

Level headed. Mrs. Helmbold says that her husband bores men to death in the offices where they print papers, and this she considers insanity.

The spring trade is opening in New York. The West buys sparingly, but pays with promptness, and Southern collections are also spoken of as satisfactory.

The saints forfend! It is intimated that Dockray, the pestilent blatherskite who recently escaped from a Spanish prison, is going to enter the lecture field.

Canadian merchants, disturbed by the talk of change in tariff, are taking tea and coffee, tobacco, wines, white sugar, etc., out of bond in advance of their requirements.

Diogenes with a lantern in search of an honest man among the Greeks was scarcely a more disheartening spectacle than is that of the lumbermen looking now for snow in the Michigan woods.

The Presbyterian Historical Society, which represents all the principal branches of the Presbyterian Church, North and South, in the United States, will erect a Centennial building at Philadelphia.

The New York brewers are making arrangements to manufacture a good many thousand barrels of beer, in anticipation that the breweries in and about Philadelphia will not be able to supply all that will be required for consumption during the Centennial.

PERSONAL.

The dinner bell which used to call Horace Greeley to his meals at Poultney, Vt., will be exhibited at the Centennial.

The *Christian Union* being asked "is the word girl used in the Bible?" replies that it is found twice in the plural, one of which verses reads thus: "And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in the streets thereof."

Miss Sarah M. Logan, who is said to be the first colored female student who has been graduated from any medical college in this State, has just received a diploma from the College of Medicine of the Syracuse University, and has begun practice in Washington.

In a recent case before a Massachusetts court one of the lawyers illustrated his knowledge of Scripture in this way: He said, "Skin for skin, yea all that a man hath will he give for his life,' our Savior said." His opponent took him up quick and remarked, "It may be that Brother B.'s Savior said that, but I am very sure that mine didn't."

Colonel James McDonald, the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Virginia, has received a letter from a Mr. Rolfe, of England, a descendant of the Rolfe who married Pocahontas, who informs Colonel McDonald that he has forwarded as a present to the State a copy which he had of an original portrait of the Indian Princess. The portrait is expected to arrive soon, and will be placed in the State Library.

A singular case of conscientiousness has just been manifested through a letter to the Treasury Department from a gentleman who signs his proper name to the communication, in which he states that he was some years ago assessed and that he paid a tax upon his income as a State officer. He demanded the return of the money, however, on the ground that it was illegal, and the amount of the tax was refunded to him. He now forwards the amount so refunded to the department—the sum of twenty-four hundred dollars—with the request that his name shall not be made public.

MARCH MAGAZINES.

LIPPINCOTT'S.

The first article in the March number of this popular magazine is a continuation of a valuable series of papers on "The Century—its Fruits and its Festival," and treats of "Past Expositions," showing the origin of expositions in the past. The article in question embraces a number of engravings of exhibition buildings, including those of Paris and Vienna. "Sketches of India," handsomely illustrated, are continued with increasing interest. Rebecca Harding Davis contributes a striking description of our "Life Saving Stations," in which she vividly pictures the dangers of our coasts, and the valuable service performed by the brave men employed by the Government to save life and property from the wrecks that occur with such frequency. "The Eutaw Flag," by Robert Wilson, is a highly interesting story of the Revolution, which takes its title from that old relic of our war for independence, the flag borne by Col. William Washington's corps, and captured by the Washington Light Infantry of Charleston. Lady Blanche Murphy's article on "Convent Life and Work" gives the reader an inside glance at convent life, and describes the good work performed by the Nuns and Sisters of Charity; the writer is evidently familiar with the subject of her article. The serial, "The Amusement of Leam Dundas," by Mrs. E. Lynn Linton, is continued, and deepens in interest. The second of "Letters from South Africa," by Lady Barker, gives an entertaining account of a voyage along a portion of the coast of Africa and visits to the towns on the route. "The songs of Mirza-Schaffy," by Auber Forestier, and "Charles Kingsley: a Reminiscence," are highly attractive papers, especially the latter, by Ellis Yarnall, in which he describes an interesting personal interview with Mr. Kingsley. The foregoing, with the usual "Monthly Gossip," and "Notices of New Books," comprise the contents of a very excellent number.

BALLOU'S.

This illustrated magazine for March is issued, and is just as interesting and smart as ever. M. Quad's great serial story, "That Taylor Boy," is absorbing in interest, and will attract as much attention as any story that has been published for some years. Among the contents we notice a thrilling sea story, several tales of adventures, half a dozen nice domestic stories of love and happiness, several pieces of poetry, and a dozen or more illustrated articles, such as will please the general reader. Published by Thomes & Talbot, 24 Hawley street, at $1 50 per year, postpaid, and for sale by all newsdealers.

The report of the Huntingdon and Broad Top Railroad for the year 1875 makes a very good showing. The receipts were $322,829, and the expenses $157,349. The net earnings were $155,480, an increase of $64,960 over 1874, which has been employed in paying interest, taxes, a floating debt of $26,346, and for sundry improvements on the road and at the mines. The increase in the coal tonnage for 1875 is due to the increased through shipments of Cumberland coal, the Broad Top product showing a falling off of about 20,000 tons.

BROOKVILLE, PA.

The Four Freshest Sensations—Opening of Court—Know-Nothing Constables Hauled Over the Coals—The Judge's Charge—Deep Mud—Festival in the M. E Church—Strangers in Town—Sheriff's Sales—The Political Pot Boiling Briskly—Delegates Elected—Accident—Prospective Building Improvements.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

BROOKVILLE, PA., February 16, 1876.

We are now in the enjoyment of four sensations, consisting of court week, a Methodist festival, four feet of mud and Sheriff's sales.

Court opened yesterday, and the first act in the drama was enacted by Judge Jenks putting the constables through a course of the shorter catechism; and long before he finished it became evident that the chief end of man was to know nothing of bad roads, adulterated whisky, tippling houses or deer killed out of season, and that in

Adam's fall we sin-ned all,

for not one of them knew of anything committed against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth. It does seem that total depravity has fixed itself on constables, it on no other portion of the human family.

The next act was the charge to the Grand Jury, which was marked with the ability which characterizes all of Judge Jenks' charges. His seed is good, and would be productive of a bountiful harvest if sown on better soil.

The mud was never so deep as it is now. Usually you can see at least the ears of *Gaule's* horses, but now, as he plods along to the depot, he has a buoy to each ear, so he can see where to lay on his whip.

The festival under the auspices of the ladies for the benefit of the Methodist Episcopal Sabbath School is a grand affair, and conduce to all intents and purposes, for the feminine disciples of Father Winker are equally active with those of Bros. Boyd, Fields, Wrightmous, Wondese, Dunlap and Vincent. A regular mixture of people of all creeds and no creeds, and, as an observer of the proceedings, I judged from the number of the juveniles in the crowd, Brookville must before long become a city of huge dimensions.

The festival, as I say, is a perfect success in every particular, and a regular feast of fun and good things. The bill of fare is equal to that at the best hotels in the country. If you wish to have real, solid enjoyment, just come to a festival presided over by the ladies of Brookville.

Among the strangers in attendance at court are General Harry White, Wm. L. Corbett, Esq., Joseph Thomson, Esq., and ex-State Treasurer Ed. Wilson. The last seen of Corbett and White, they were surrounded by 1,400 boys trying to sell them tickets to the festival; but Corbett lost his appetite at the last court, when the doctors swore him out of his case, and has, consequently, no occasion for tickets where the table groans under such bounties as he would find at the festival.

The panic has not yet exhausted its ravaging influence and Sheriff's sales are more frequent than prayer meetings, and lawyers and court officers are getting rich, while the people are getting beggared. What an outrage that in the terrible suffering amongst our business, the Legislature has not had a sufficient amount of wisdom and humanity to pass a stay law. Men who built up the country are crushed beneath their load and there is none to relieve. A well considered stay law, passed last winter, would have saved an untold amount of distress amongst our business men, but then it would have been unprofitable for the disciples of Blackstone and Chitty, a body of modern men would have done better. It is the men who improve a country that suffer.

Politically, the pot is beginning to boil. The Republicans who helped by their votes to send a Democratic majority to the House of Representatives at Washington, as well as Republicans generally, feel ashamed of themselves when they look at the congregation of traitors and imbeciles who try to legislate for an intelligent and loyal people, and feel anxious to get an opportunity to again place the glorious old Republican party in possession of all the departments of the Government.

Our town and county is exceedingly healthy, and our physicians are standing idle at the market places, because no one has anything them, which is a good thing for the people but hard on the doctors. Still it is hard to see so much skill go to rust.

I see my friend J. R. Coxson, Esq., in attendance on court. He is the able editor and proprietor of that indescribable sheet, the *Argus*, and is a good fellow. He has purchased a new hair brush and a box of pomade, and says he will hereafter look as flashy as Sheriff Barr dare look.

The Republican County Committee last night elected Colonel S. J. Marin Representative, and William Brown, of Punxsutawney, Senatorial delegates, without instruction in regard to the Presidency. As the voice of Jefferson county will probably control the nomination for the Presidential candidate, it was thought best not to allow that voice to be heard until we ascertain what candidate will be the best for the interest of Pennsylvania and Pennsylvanians. The feeling, however, is strong for Blaine. If General Cameron was a younger man he would be our choice. Our townsman, N. S. Garrison, met with an accident yesterday, which necessitated the amputation of one of his fingers by Drs. McKnight and Sweeney. During the time he was under the influence of chloroform, he developed the fact that he was a good whistler, a matter before unknown to the oldest inhabitant.

I notice Eason & Mason are offering a clearance sale, in which they expect to clear six dollars on every sale they make amounting to five dollars.

There will be seventy buildings erected in our town during the coming summer, which is good evidence that our people have confidence in the future of Brookville. I will now close my letter, but if said time I could give you some news, but this must suffice for the present.

A. P. H.

A WILD FAMILY.

A Girl Murdered by Her Brother—The Murderer Captured and Sent to the Insane Asylum.

PITTSTON, PA., February 8.—In the fall of 1871 quite a sensation was created in this neighborhood by the discovery, in the wilderness of Wyoming county, of a family of wild people, consisting of a man and his two children. The latter roamed the woods in a nude condition, subsisting on nuts, roots, &c. The man lived in a miserable hut, where his children sometimes slept. He was possessed of a good education, and, clothed in rags and surrounded with filth, he spent his time in studying an old Bible.

He seemed to have a profound knowledge of Scriptural subjects, and was well versed in ancient and modern history. He possessed, also, extraordinary elocutionary powers, and had invented a system of short hand which he wrote with remarkable speed and read with fluency. Soon after the discovery of these strange beings a man named Robison sought to make money out of them by exhibiting them about the country. To obtain the children he was obliged to kidnap them, and by a course of most cruel treatment compelled them to submit to be partially clothed. When clothing was first put on them they tore it to shreds. The father was induced to accompany them, and served as lecturer, reader and short-hand writer.

The children were a boy and a girl. They were named William and Mary. They were gradually forgotten, but in 1873 their father appeared at Tunkhannock and made the charge that his son had killed his sister and attempted to kill his father, and asked that he be taken in charge by the authorities. The wild boy was arrested with great difficulty and lodged in jail.

The name of the father of the wild mutes is Thomas Wells Parke. He is fifty-five years old, and was born in Exeter, Luzerne county. He lived in that place until he was fifteen years old, obtaining the rudiments of an English education. Beyond the fact that when he was that age his parents moved into the wilderness of Wyoming county, to the spot where he was discovered with his family in 1871, and that they died there and were buried in the woods by his own hands, nothing of his history is known of his antecedents. His father left fifty acres of land, on which Parke's hut now stands. When he was twenty-six years old he married a girl of twenty, named Mary Searles. She was sickly and subject to insane spells. The girl, Melvina, was born in 1849, and the boy nearly three years later.

The mother never gave them any attention, and from the time they were old enough to get about they were compelled to look out for themselves. They never spoke a word in their lives, nor had a garment of any kind on them until the showman took them away. They early took to the woods, and grew up like the animals that infested the region. From digging for roots and hunting nests they acquired the habit of going on all fours, and were almost as fleet as deer. They were equally agile in an erect position. They subsisted on nuts, roots, bark, &c., and also systematically hunted mice, rats, rabbits, ground moles and other burrowing animals, which they devoured raw. They climbed the highest trees with ease, and hunted birds' nests, the contents of which, whether eggs or young birds, were choice food for them. They wandered about in the most rigorous winter weather, and sometimes remained away from home days at a time. They make it a point almost black from exposure, and at the time they were discovered by the hunters their flesh was covered with scars made by cuts and scratches of bushes. The skin on the palms of their hands and soles of their feet was thick and as hard as horn. The disposition of the boy at that time was ugly and vicious. He had made several assaults on his sister, wounding her badly, and had attempted to kill his mother, who ran away from the hut in March, 1871, and never returned.

Left alone with his wild offspring, the father noted with alarm the increasing ferociousness of the boy, and, when he could control him, he tied him in the hut for the safety of himself and the girl. This increased his fury, and he was released. The disposition of the girl was gentler, and she was quite docile.

When they returned from their short tour with the showman it was in the midst of the severe winter of 1872. Parke had left home at the time he usually gathered his crop of potatoes and turnips, all he raised on his land, and when he came back there was nothing for him to subsist on. His children betook themselves at once to the woods. The snow was very deep, and they could find but little to eat.

It had been their custom previously to make out their winter's subsistence by sharing their father's potatoes, which he cooked in a hole dug in the ground in his hut. The stock having been exhausted they suffered terribly from hunger. Parke obtained occasional relief from the surrounding villages, but it seems, singularly enough, that no move was made to deal permanently with this wretched family. The mutes stripped the bark from trees, and even ate the straw which formed their father's bed in one corner of the hut. They fought each other like wild beasts, and their father lived in mortal terror for nearly three months.

Near his hut is a swamp, which is the home of myriads of smaller reptiles. When spring opened, the wild and almost famished children scoured this swamp, and caught and devoured, with the ravenous appetites of half-starved wolves, the creeping occupants of the mire. This is not only testified to by their father, but by others, who declare that they saw the boy catch and eat a water snake.

Parke says that this horrid diet increased the ferocity of his children. One day the brother and sister came into the hut, and a fight ensued between them. Parke was compelled to fly. Bill, as the boy was called, attacked his sister with an old case knife he had picked up in the hovel. He stabbed her in the breast and in other places. She ran bleeding to the woods. Her father found her afterward lying at the foot of a tree, dead. He carried her body a long distance into the woods and buried it.

Parke continued to live in the hut, but was frequently compelled to leave it to escape the fury of his son. Finally, early in 1873, he made the complaint against him, and has at last had his brutish child safely disposed of.

Amelioration and Cure.

Amelioration of the symptoms of a disease is, of course, one desirable object of medication, and there are, no doubt, palatives which possess considerable medical efficacy. The temporary disappearance of the *indicia* of a disease, in too many instances, however, deludes the sick into a belief that they are cured. Many of those who have borne grateful testimony to the permanent remedial effects of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, in cases of liver disorder, chronic constipation, intermittent and remittent fevers, urinary and rheumatic ailments, have also recorded the fact that the temporary relief occasionally afforded by the medicine which they tried before using the great restorative inspired hopes which were speedily dissipated by return of the malady. The Bitters not only relieve, but if persistently and regularly taken, cure the maladies to which they are adapted.

NATIONAL INSURANCE CO.,

43 South Diamond St., Allegheny City.

W. W. MARTIN.....President.
JAMES E. STEVENSON.....Secretary.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,

NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.

Assets January 1, 1873 - $778,251 56.

CHARTERED IN 1869.

Open daily from 9 to 4 o'clock, and on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from May 1st to November 1st, 7 to 8 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 8 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of Six Per Cent. compounded from the first days of each month, and if not withdrawn compounds semi-annually, in January and July. Rules of By-Laws, &c., furnished at the office.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

GEO. A. BERRY, President.
JOHN SCOTT, JAS. PARK, JR., Vice Presidents.
D. E. MCKINLEY, Secretary and Treasurer.
A. Bradley, J. L. Graham, A. S. Bell, Wm. R. Sinclair, John S. Dilworth, F. Rahm, G. Pellandini, Joshua Rhodes, S. H. Hartman, Robert C. Schmertz, Christopher Zug.

John R. Bailey, Solicitor.

INSURANCE STATEMENTS.

STATEMENT

OF THE

Allegheny Insurance Company,

OF PITTSBURGH, PA.,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1875.

Capital Stock.....$100,000 00

ASSETS.

Cash.....$ 7,078 20	
Bonds and Mortgages..... 70,100 00	
Bank and other Stocks..... 32,282 00	
Real Estate..... 2,250 00	
Premium Notes..... 3,065 25	
Premiums in course of collection..... 3,088 94	
Book Accounts..... 1,319 05	
Interest Due and Accrued..... 2,225 58	
Stock Notes..... 20,000 00	
Office Furniture..... 600 90	
	$ 143 804 14

RECEIPTS.

Premiums.....$30,618 48	
Interest..... 7,360 16	
	$ 37,978 64

DISBURSEMENTS.

Losses (part incurred in 1874).....$20,677 12	
Cash Premiums, Reinsurance and Commissions..... 3,048 41	
Salaries, Rent, Advertising and all other expenses..... 7,301 51	
State Tax..... 1,060 00	
	$ 32,827 04
Outstanding Risks.....	$2,202,409 25
Unearned Premiums.....	23,677 14
Unpaid Losses.....	None.

C. G. DONNELL, Secretary.

Pittsburgh, January 31, 1876.

ANNUAL STATEMENT

OF THE

German American Insurance Company,

OF PENNSYLVANIA.

PITTSBURGH, DECEMBER 31, 1875.

Capital paid in.....$100,000 00

ASSETS.

Bonds and mortgages.....$ 76,316 00	
United States 5-20 Bonds..... 45,325 00	
Bank stocks..... 3,300 00	
Real estate at cost..... 2,000 00	
Interest due and accrued..... 2,012 00	
Premiums in course of collection..... 11,324 87	
Personal property, office furniture, &c..... 1,109 71	
Cash in bank..... 12,224 83	
	$ 155,372 41

RECEIPTS.

Premiums.....$ 81,401 15	
Interest..... 11,328 19	
Rents and other sources..... 84 00	
Balance, January 1, 1875..... 26,702 80	
	$ 120,416 52

DISBURSEMENTS.

Losses of 1874.....$ 1,228 12	
Losses of 1875..... 16,968 00	
	$ 18,196 30
Return premiums..... 14,754 00	
Reinsurance..... 6,000 00	
Commissions..... 10,814 78	
Salaries, taxes and all other expenses..... 14,041 27	
Dividends..... 6,000 00	
Balance January 1, 1876.....	$ 65,014 11
Capital paid in.....	100,000 00
	$ 155,372 41
Reinsurance reserve.....$ 35,327 75	
Losses reported, awaiting proof, &c..... 7,106 71	
Other liabilities, rents, etc., 1,250 00	
Net surplus..... 12,240 00	
	$ 55,372 41
Amount of risks in force January 1, 1876.....	$3,626,001 19

W. J. PATTERSON, Secretary.

PROPOSALS.

PROPOSALS FOR IRON.

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL, ILL., January 29, 1876.

SEALED PROPOSALS ARE INVITED for furnish, delivered at this Arsenal, the following:

30,000 lbs. of 12-inch Wrought Iron I Beams.
85,000 lbs. of 7-inch Wrought Iron Deck Beams.
20,000 lbs. of 6-inch Wrought Iron Beams.
20,000 lbs. of T Iron from 2½-inch x 3½-inch to 3-inch x 3½-inch.
50,000 lbs. of Round Bar Iron from ⅝-inch to 3-inch in diameter.
38,000 lbs. of Flat and Square Bar Iron, various sizes.

The name or place of manufacture of the Iron must be stated. The Beams will be subject to inspection and test, and will be required to give an ultimate tensile strength of not less than 54,000 pounds per square inch, and to be of a tensile strength of 60,000 pounds per square inch, without permanent set, and will be thoroughly tested for the quality of bending, welding, &c.

Bids for any other than the high grade of Iron required will not be considered.

Proposals should be indorsed "Proposals for Iron," and will be received at 10 A. M., MARCH 10, 1876.

The right to reject any and all bids not deemed satisfactory is reserved.

For full bill of Iron, specifications for quality and other information, apply to the undersigned.

D. W. FLAGLER, Major of Ordnance.

LEGAL.

IN THE MATTER OF THE VOLUNTARY assignment of Hart, Caughey & Co., to D. T. Watson. In Common Pleas, No. 1, No. 437 June Term, 1875.

And now, February 12, 1876, first and partial account of D. T. Watson, assignee of the firm of Hart, Caughey & Co., and William K. Hart and C. P. Caughey, presented in Court, and Thursday the same is ordered to be filed and confirmed nisi, unless Exceptions in writing be filed to notice of the same by publication in the Pittsburgh Commercial and Evening Telegraph, on or before WEDNESDAY, March 8, A. D. 1876, exceptions be filed thereto, the same will be confirmed absolutely. By the Court.

Attest: B. F. KENNEDY, Prothonotary.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE.—LETTERS Testamentary having been granted to the undersigned upon the estate of ELIAS DROCOURT, deceased, late of Sewick'y borough, Allegheny county, Pa., all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment, and those having claims against said estate to present the same for settlement to

A. L. DROCOURT, Executor,
26 and 28 Sixth street, Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh, January 24, 1876.

NEW RELIGIOUS PAPER.

THE

PRESBYTERIAN JOURNAL.

$1 50 A YEAR IN ADVANCE.

NO EXTRA CHARGE FOR POSTAGE.

ALFRED NEVIN, D. D., LL. D., } Editors.
REV. J. FORD SUTTON, }

This cheapest of all religious papers is published in uncut, unfoldable style, on a sheet 26 by 37½ inches, it uses no out lie inducements to secure support. Its *religious* pages are found in its pages. It excludes all *Medical* and other unworthy advertisements—also, dry discussions. No effort is spared to make it a bright, safe, and instructive journal for

THE FAMILY.

While it is a Denominational paper, it embraces in its outlook all the branches of the Redeemer's kingdom. Its articles are brief, pointed, lively, practical and earnest. The INTERNATIONAL LESSONS, prepared expressly for the JOURNAL by one of

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, February 16, 1876.

Among lenders in this city the amount of unemployed capital is quite large and rates continue to rule in favor of the borrowers, who can nearly supply their wants at the prevailing low rates, provided the security offered is of a satisfactory character.

The matter of investments is also a source of anxiety with many of our capitalists, and what to put money into in order to have it safe, and at the same time receive a fair equivalent for its use, is a question daily asked. Under influence of this feeling we put the following quotations made: Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis 7's, 85½; Pittsburgh and Connellsville 7's, 105½; Allegheny Valley Railroad 7-30's 95¼. The high prices prevailing for Governments at the present time reduces the percentage of volume to so low a figure that many hesitate to buy them and there is more inquiry for town, city and school bonds as well as for first-class railroad bonds, and quite an active demand is noticed in this class of securities, of which, however, the supply is limited.

—We learn from the London *Investors' Manual* that in the following amounts were called up on account of London subscriptions to new issues of American securities during January:

Philadelphia and Reading Railroad.....	£100,000
People's Gas Light and Coke Company of Chicago.....	150,000
Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad.....	100,000
Utica, Ithaca and Elmira Railroad.....	18,750
Total January.....	£368,750

During February the only amounts to be called up are £125,000 on account of the People's Gas Light and Coke Company of Chicago, and £520,000 on account of the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad, making a total of £645,000. Thus, for the first two months of the year the new loans negotiated in London amount to $7,300,000, which sum has been set off by large importations of Government bonds from Europe.

—The contract of the Syndicate with the Treasury Department was closed yesterday. The Secretary of the Treasury has now succeeded in converting all of the 6's and 6½ and a part of the old 6's into 5 per cent. bonds, thus effecting a saving of $5,000,000 per annum in interest. Whether Mr. Bristow will make any attempt to continue the funding of the loan remains to be seen. His movements in this direction will depend very much upon the action of Congress, which will shortly reduce the security offered is of a satisfactory character. session, or if it should be considered certain that nothing will be done to amend the Funding act, the Secretary may take the responsibility of making a contract with the Syndicate for the negotiation of the 4½ per cents.

It is hoped that if this course should be pursued all possible safeguards will be adopted to prevent disturbance to the gold market. If prompt settlements are insisted upon there will be less opportunity for manipulating gold in the interest of the Syndicate, and we shall not have a repetition of the scenes of last October, when the loan market was kept in a feverish condition and the price of gold was advanced through movements which were with good reason supposed to be directed by some of the Syndicate bankers.

—The bondholders' committee of the Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad has agreed upon a plan of reorganization to be submitted to bondholders, of which the leading features are as follows:

The trustees to procecute proceedings for foreclosure, and the company to facilitate the same, so that a decree may be obtained as economically and expeditiously as possible. The committee of the bondholders to become the purchasers in trust for the various interests in the purchase, and a new corporation to be organized for the purpose of acquiring and holding the property. The capital stock of the new corporation to be divided into preferred and common stock. The preferred stock to be Northern pacific land grant mortgage bondholders for the amount of their bonds and accrued interest to January 1, 1876, and to be received at par for lands as the first mortgage bonds now are. The common stock to be issued to the holders of the income bonds, notes, certificates of indebtedness, book accounts and floating debt, for the amount of their respective claims and accrued interest, to January 1, 1876 and to the holders of the present common stock at the rate of one share or new stock for 20 of old. Each share of preferred stock, and every three shares of common stock, to be entitled to one vote at all meetings of the company. No mortgage to be placed on the property without the written consent of the holders of not less than two-thirds of the preferred stock then outstanding, and one-half of the common stock.

—In the New York Assembly Mr. L. Bradford Prince has introduced a general railroad bill, as required by the Constitution. The bill provides that any number of persons not less than seven may form a company for the purpose of constructing and operating a local railroad in any part of the State. And such company shall possess all the rights and franchises of such companies, with the following exceptions: First, the corporators necessary for organization may be any number less than seven; second, the number of directors in such companies shall be seven; third, there shall be no limitation as to the weight of iron rail to be laid down by such companies, except in certain cases; fourth, no such company shall be allowed to use or occupy the tracks of any existing railway for a longer distance than 1,000 feet to gain access or terminal switches of any existing company, except with the written consent of such company.

—A table in the *Railway News* gives the additions to the mileage of British railroads in 1875. The total is 250 miles, on 18 different roads. The largest new line is the Settle and Carlisle, 73 miles. No other is more than 25 miles long.

OFFICE OF TRASK & STONE, }
BANKERS AND BROKERS, No. 7 NEW STREET, }
NEW YORK, February 15, 1876.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

There has been a renewal of activity in our stock market to-day, with some further fluctuations in prices. Rock Island has been a prominent feature and sold up to 107¾, against 106¾ at the first board. There is some evidence that a combination has been formed in this stock, and the great favor with which it is regarded by all classes of operators will insure activity in it should its quotation fluctuate more than of late.

The reduction in the rates for telegraphing to and from this city by the Atlantic and Pacific Telegraph Company caused a depression in Western Union Telegraph stock this morning, and there is some noticeable desire to sell on the part of the outside holders of this stock, in consequence of the reported reduced earnings of the company.

The St. Paul and Northwestern stocks are strong, on the news from the Wisconsin Legislature.

Pacific Mail is left severely alone, and for no known cause.

Erie has been advanced on higher quotations in London.

Lake Shore is feverish, and there is very little inquiry for it from outside parties.

Money remains easy at four per cent.

Yours truly,
TRASK & STONE.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

February 16, 1876.	10:30 A.M.	12:30 P.M.	1:30 P.M.	2:30 P.M.	3:30 P.M.
Gold.....	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾
U. S. 6's 1881, coup.....	123½	....	....	123½	....
5-20's, 1865.....	118	....	....	118	....
5-20's, 1865, new.....	120½	....	....	120½	....
5-20's, 1867, registered.....	122½	....	....	122½	....
5-20's, 1867.....	122¾	....	....	122¾	....
5-20's, 1868.....	122¾	....	....	122¾	....
10-40's, coupons.....	118	....	....	118	....
Currency 6's.....	124½	....	....	125½	....
New 5 per cents.....	113¾	....	....	113¾	....
Western Union Tel.....	75	74¾	75¾	74	74
Quicksilver.....	35	....	....	....	....
Pacific Mail.....	35¼	35¼	34¾	33½	33½
Panama.....	130	....	130½	....	....
Adams Express.....	93	....	93½	....	....
Wells-Fargo Express.....	49	....	50	....	....
American Express.....	57	....	57½	....	....
United States Exp'ss.....	75½	....	76	....	....
New York Central.....	116¾	....	....	....	....
Erie.....	18	17¾	....	17¾	17¾
Michigan Central.....	65½	....	....	65½	65½
Michigan Southern.....	66¾	66¾	66¾	66¾	66¾
Illinois Central.....	99½	....	99½	100¼	....
Cleveland & Pitts.....	92¾	....	93¼	....	....
Chicago & Northwestern.	42	41¾	41¾	41¾	41¾
Do. preferred.....	65	64¾	64¾	65½	65½
Rock Island.....	113¾	113¾	113¾	....	110
St. Paul common.....	46½	46½	46½	....	46½
Do. preferred.....	80	79¾	79½	79½	79½
Wabash, common.....	15½	....	....	....	....
Fort Wayne.....	101¾	....	101¾	....	....
Ohio and Mississippi.....	22½	....	22½	....	21½
Union Pacific.....	69	....	....	....	68½
Harlem.....	142	....	....	....	140
Hannibal and St. Joe.....	....	....	20½	....	18½
Atlantic & Pac., p'f'd.....	....	....	....	....	....
C. C. C. & I. C.....	25½	....	....	....	....
Missouri Pacific.....	24	....	....	....	24

—The following is the report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

Stocks.	Bid.	Asked.	Sales.
Pennsylvania Central..	55¾	56	55¾
Reading.....	....	....	51¾
United Co's of N. J....	140	....	....
Oil Creek.....	....	....	14½
Lehigh Valley.....	....	....	64
Allegheny Valley.....	....	100	....
Central Transp'n Co....	....	....	48½
Empire Transp'n Co....	52	....	....
P., C. & St. L., m. b....	....	....	81¼
Northern Pacific bonds.	....	....	92

[By Associated Press.]
Gold Closed at 113¾.

MONEY.

NEW YORK, February 16.—Money closed at 3@4 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 4½@6 per cent. Customs receipts $534,000. Assistant Treasurer disbursed $1,165,000. Clearings $37,000,000. Sterling quiet at 486@485.

GOLD.

Specie engagements for to-morrow's European steamer $1,275,000. Gold opened at 113¾, advanced to 113¾, reacted to 113¼ and finally sold at 113¾. Rates paid for carrying were 2 and¾ per cent.; loans also made flat.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government bonds strong and higher. Railroad bonds dull but firm. State securities quiet. Stocks weak and lower, the decline from the highest point of the day ranging from ¼ to 2 per cent. Rock Island has been a fractional recovery in some shares. Western Union declined to 74, Pacific Mail to 33¾, Rock Island to 106¾, Lake Shore to 65¾, Northwestern to 41¾, preferred to 64¾, St. Paul to 44¾, preferred to 78¾, Ohio and Mississippi to 21¾, Union Pacific to 69, Erie to 17¾, Hannibal and St. Joseph to 18¾, preferred to 29 and Michigan Central to 99¼. Transactions in shares, of which 27,000 were Pacific Mail, 64,000 Western Union, 25,400 Northwestern, 13,200 Rock Island, 19,000 Erie, 51,000 Lake Shore and 19,000 Ohio and Mississippi. The following were the closing quotations:

STOCKS.			
W. U. Telegraph.....	74	Toledo & Wabash..	5¾
Pacific Mail.....	33¾	Do. preferred.....	15
Adams Express*.....	103½	Fort Wayne.....	101¾
Wells-Fargo Ex.*....	87	Terre Haute.....	6
American Ex.*.....	63½	Do. preferred.....	22
U. S. Express.....	74¾	Chicago & Alton..	105¼
New York Central..	115½	Do. preferred....	109
Erie.....	17¾	Ohio & Mississippi	21¾
Do. preferred.....	36	Indiana Central...	5
Harlem.....	143	Indianapolis & C.	13
Do. preferred.....	134	Hannibal & St. Joe	18¾
Michigan Central..	99¼	Delaware & Lack..	117¾
Lake Shore.....	65¾	Atlantic & P. Tel..	19½
Illinois Central....	99½	Union Pacific stock	68¾
Clev. & Pitts.....	93¼	Central Pac. bonds.	85½
Northwestern.....	42½	Union Pac. bonds..	103½
Do. preferred.....	64¾	Do. land grants..	102¼
N. J. Central.....	107	Mariposa.....	8¾
Rock Island.....	106	Do. preferred....	8¾
St. Paul.....	44¾	Panama	130½
Do. preferred.....	78¾	Missouri Pacific ..	12¾

*Ex-dividend.

GOVERNMENTS.

U. S. coupons, 1881	123¾	New 5's.....	113½
5-20's, 1865.....	118½	10-40's registered....	117½
5-20's, 1865, new....	119½	10-40's coupons.....	120¼
5-20's, 1867.....	122¾	Currency 6's.....	123½
5-20's, 1868.....	122¾		

STATE BONDS.

Missouri 6's.....	102¾	Virginia, new.....	36
Tennessee, old.....	39¾	Virginia, old.....	38
Tennessee, new.....	41		

LONDON, February 16, 5 P. M.—Consols for money 91 5-16; for account 91¾. United States bonds—5-20's, 1865, 103½; do 1867, 109½; 10-40's, 104¾; new 5's, 108¾. Railroad securities—New York Central 105; Erie 16¾; do preferred 32.

PARIS, February 16.—Rentes 68 francs 75 centimes.

FRANKFORT, February 16.—United States bonds—New 5's 101½.

NEW ORLEANS, February 16.—Gold 113¾. Sight ½ premium. Sterling—Bank 55¾.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, }
WEDNESDAY, February 16, 1876. }

At the date of our last weekly review we reported a dull and unsatisfactory market. We regret to say that we have scarcely any improvement to notice in the present one. The improvement so long expected holds off. Dealers are still hopeful that the good time is near at hand. The weather has been about as unsettled as trade; we have seldom two days of the same kind. In regard to trade, we have but few alterations to note, and these will be found under appropriate headings. Leading dealers for some time past have been replenishing their stocks for the spring trade, and will thus be enabled to offer the largest kind of inducements to dealers generally. Parties interested would do well to pay our dealers a visit; there is money in it, for certain. Groceries are dull, coffee, as compared with last week, being about one cent per pound off. Sugars about held their own; the demand, however, was not what we have a right to look for at this season. Bacon—The market during the week has stiffened very materially. A slight advance will be perceived on examination of prices. Dealers, at least holders, are well pleased with the situation. Below will be found a carefully revised list of prices of the leading articles.

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce since our last:

Articles.	This week.	Last week.	Total
Flour, bbls.....	9,114	8,051	17,165
Apples, bbls.....	30	177	207
Cheese, tons.....	81	157	238
Corn, bus.....	8,861	10,689	19,550
Wheat, bus.....	5,733	14,039	19,772
Barley, bus.....	12,650	5,748	18,398
Rye, bus.....	1,312	2,510	3,822
Oats, bus.....	16,225	22,000	38,225
Butter, pkgs.....	660	1,011	1,671
Bacon, pcs.....	9,681	23,950	33,631
Bacon, tes.....	220	112	332
Potatoes, bus.....	5,250	8,095	13,345
Hay, bales.....	3,150	2,814	5,964

The quotations given in the following reports are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free in elevator.

Grain, Flour and Feed.

GRAIN—The receipts of most kinds of grain have increased during the week very materially, particularly of wheat, oats and corn, while in barley there is a large falling off. The corn receipts for the week show an increase of 1,617 bushels. The increase in wheat for the same time amounted to 8,275 bushels. In barley there was a large falling off, viz., 7,140 bushels. Rye shows an increase in receipts of 1,198 bushels. Notwithstanding the large receipts of oats last week the present one exceeds it 5,225 bushels. The gain for the week amounts to 9,271 bushels. The following are the rates current for the various descriptions: Yellow, Western and white, which are very scarce and can only be obtained at few points; amber is firm at $1 56 per bushel; the latter at $1 56@1 60 per bushel. The following are the current rates: Wheat—Michigan white $1 60@1 61 Pennsylvania and Ohio red winter $1 30@1 36, being scarce and in demand; Northwestern red $1 26@1 28; low grades in demand but neglected at $1 18@1 22; rejected do 90@98 $1 10, as to quality. Corn is quiet with light receipts at current prices. We quote new shelled at 51@55c for good yellow; new ear 48@50c for mixed, 50@52c for choice yellow; old shelled in elevator is held at 62@65c. Oats were steady at about former quotations. We quote Pennsylvania and Ohio at 40@41c; white do at 42@44c; Western white 42@44c. Barley—Not much doing; Canada is held at $1 30@1 35 per bushel; choice spring at $1 18@1 21; common to prime $1 00@1 16; low grades nominal at 90@$1 00. Rye quiet with sales at 85c; held at 80@83c per bushel. Jobbing sales were made at the usual advance.

FLOUR—The market was steady with a fair trade demand. This, however, has been the limitation for some time past, and when compared with last week shows a deficiency of 1,050 barrels. There is, however, a fair stock on hand. The rates current are from mills: No. 1 white wheat flour $7 25 ₱ bbl. No. 1 amber do $7 25; red do $7 50; fine flour $5 00 in sacks 25c off ₱ bbl. The jobbing prices of the leading dealers for standard brands of flour are steady as follows: Choice brands of winter wheat flour $7 00@7 75; white wheat do $7 00@7 75; Wisconsin is quoted at $6 00@6 25; Minnesota do $6 50@7 75; fancy St. Louis do $6 25@8 50; choice brands ₱ 50@9 00; roll winter wheat flour is active at $5 00@6 25; Graham flour $5 50@5 75; self-raising flour, in 6 ₱ packages, $5 25 ₱ dozen packages, $5 00; Minnesota do, $5 00; oatmeal $6 25 ₱ bbl; kegs $3 50. Rye flour $5 00@5 25 ₱ bbl. Buckwheat flour 2½@3c ₱ ₱.

HAY—The demand for common hay is evidently demoralized, and sales were rare at a low figure, upland prairie being offered at $10 00@12 00 per ton, as per quality and condition. The receipts have fallen off. We quote timothy $16 00@18 00, as per quality and condition; lots of loose hay from wagon $17 00@22 00 ₱ ton.

MILL FEED—The market has undergone no material change since our last, most of the offering being reported as inferior; prices, consequently, are nominal at $16 00@17 00 ₱ ton; middlings and chopped feed $18 00@24 00 ₱ ton, as to quality. Oil meal $40 00@43 00 ₱ ton.

Country Produce.

APPLES—The market, owing to limited stocks and scarcely any receipts, has been firmer, with holders asking an advance. We quote good, sound apples at $3 50@4 00@4 50 per barrel. Common stock dull and prices very uncertain.

APPLE BUTTER—We can report a steady trade demand for all descriptions, with sales in a regular way at 60@70c per gallon.

BEANS—We have to report a very dull market, with more sellers than buyers. We quote small white navy at $1 20@1 30 per bushel; mixed are too nominal to quote.

BUCKWHEAT—The demand was only moderate and sales were limited. We quote at 30@35c per pound.

BUTTER—Receipts are still coming in freely, the increase for the week being 151 packages. There is a steady demand for choice to choice roll for table use at 26@28c; fancy lots very nicely put up bring about 30c. Other grades sales were made at prices ranging from 12½@22c ₱ ₱.

CIDER—The receipts have fallen off. The market was firmer without any quotable change. We quote nominally at $6 00@7 00 as to quality and size of barrel.

CRANBERRIES—The market was not an active one. Prices are nominal at $11 00@12 00 per barrel, as per quality and condition.

CHEESE—The firmness we have before noted has been fully maintained for choice descriptions for present use. The receipts have been light. We quote entire Ohio factory at 13½@14c; New York do 14@14½c; Ohio Switzer 13½@14c; Limberger 14@15c ₱ ₱, as to quality.

DRIED FRUITS—We have to report a dull market, with more sellers than buyers. Apples—Prime bright quarters 9@9½c; sliced, 10@11c. Peaches—Halves 13@13½c; peeled 19@21c. Blackberries 14c. Huckleberries 15@20c. Raspberries 30@35c. Cherries, pitted, 25@28c; unpitted 8@9c per ₱.

EGGS—The low prices have created demand. Sales have been unusually large at 15@16c per dozen; from store the usual advance was obtained.

HONEY—The supply exceeds the demand. We quote nominally at $3 75@4 00 ₱ barrel.

HOMINY—New domestic hominy is steady at 25 @2½c ₱ ₱. California is quoted at 3c ₱ ₱.

RAGS—In sluggish demand for present use only. Prices are quite depressed. Choice 1875 is rule at 1½@2c ₱ ₱, while mediums have no fixed value. Prices are very uncertain.

MUSIC MEN—The season is about over. Prices are very unsettled.

NUTS—We have nothing new to note in regard to either prices or demand. The following are the nominal rates for the various kinds: Pennuts are in fair request at easy prices; prime white Tennessee nuts rule at 6@9½c, according to quality; Virginia 7½@8c; shellbarks are easy at $1 25@1 50 ₱ bushel; walnuts depressed at 3@40c ₱ bushel; hazel nuts $3 50@4 00 per barrel.

POTATOES—The market remains dull, with a supply largely in excess of the demand. Prices are weak but no lower, holders being of the opinion that a further reduction is unnecessary. We quote from wharf and depot at 35@37½c. From store the usual advance was obtained.

POULTRY—The supply at present exceeds the demand. Prices are weak and unsatisfactory, at least to sellers. Sales were made on the wharf and from depot, round lots, at 35@37c per bushel.

POULTRY—The weather being rather warm for handling the sales have been light. Prices are too unsettled to quote for dressed. We quote live chickens by the coop, 45@55c per pair.

TALLOW—We quote chandlers, city rendered, 9½@10c ₱ ₱; country do 8½@9c ₱ ₱.

VEGETABLES—Onions are in large stock and slow. We quote at $2 50@3 00 per barrel. Dried green peas are quoted at $1 65@1 75 ₱ bushel. Turnips 2½@25c ₱ bushel. Beets 45@90c ₱ bushel. Parsnips 2½@3c ₱ bunch.

ALES—In good supply. We quote city brands $8 00 ₱ barrel to the trade, and $7 50 to the country; XX ale $10 00; India ale $11 00; half-barrel in proportion.

BROOMCORN—The market has stiffened up considerably. Clover is now quoted from store $9 00@9 25 ₱ bushel; timothy not so firm; we quote nominally $2 50@3 00.

DRESSED HOGS—The season is drawing to a close. We hear of an occasional sale at 7@7½c ₱ ₱.

RAGS—Market steady. We note sales in a regular way at 3c for good mixed.

LUMBER—Market well supplied. We quote country stock 13@20c ₱ gallon; best city make $2 45@2 50; common $1 75@2 00 per barrel.

ASHES—The market was not very active. The current rates are: Soda ash, common, 2½@3c; refined do 3½@4c; nitre 2½@3c; pearl 7½c; potash 7c; manganese 6½c; arsenic 5@5½c; flour spar 2@2½c ₱ ₱.

Provisions.

The market continues firm with a steadily increasing demand. Prices are advancing. We note sales since our last 300 per barrel. The tendency is evidently to higher prices. The week's receipts show an increase over the previous one of 14,226 pieces, and a falling off in tierces of 103. The supply, however, on the market is a fair one. The rates up to last evening were as follows:

Hams, Extra Sugar Cured, ₱ lb..	14½	Lard, Prime Leaf in 5 ₱ bbls., ₱ lb..	14
Shoulders, Extra Sugar Cured, ₱ lb..	10½	Lard, Refined in buckets, ₱ lb..	14½
Breakfast Bacon, Extra Sugar Cured, ₱ lb..	16½	Lard, Refined in 5 ₱ caddies, ₱ lb..	15
Dried Beef, Extra Sugar Cured, ₱ lb..	14½	Lard, Refined in 5 ₱ caddies, ₱ lb..	16¼
Tongues, Extra Sugar Cured, ₱ doz.	15	Lard, Refined in 5 ₱ pails, ₱ lb..	16¼
Bacon Shoulders, Sugar Cured, ₱ lb..	9¾	Lard, Refined in 5 ₱ pails, ₱ lb..	16¼
Bacon, Short Rib Sides, ₱ lb..	15	Lard Oil, Extra No. 1, ₱ gal..	65
Bacon, Clear Rib Sides, ₱ lb..	13½	Lard Oil, Miners' Winter Strained, ₱ gal	67
Mess Pork, ₱ bbl	22 50	Lard Oil, Strained Carbon Oil, Standard White, ₱ gal..	13
Family Mess Pork, about 25 pieces in bbl., ₱ bbl	22 50	Cheese, Prime New York Goshen, ₱ lb..	14
Short Cut Mess Pork, about 50 pieces in bbl., ₱ bbl	22 50	Pigs' Feet, Kegs, ₱ 2 00	
Lard, Prime Leaf in tierces, ₱ lb..	13½	Pigs' Feet, ½ bbls 4 15	
		Pigs' Feet, 1 bbl 9 10	

Groceries.

Dealers in sweets and grocers generally report the demand steadily improving. The bad condition of the country roads has been a material drawback to trade. The following are the currant rates:

Green Coffees.	₱ lb.	*Sugars.*	₱ lb.
Fancy Rio.....	24 c	Standard A.....	10½c
Choice Rio.....	23 c	Standard B.....	10¼c
Prime Rio.....	22 c	Do. extra C.....	10 c
Good Rio.....	21 c	Extra C, yel. ¾c@¼c	9¾c
Ordinary Rio.....	20 c	C—yellow.....	9¾c
Java.....	32 c	Franklin, B.....	10¼c
Roasted Coffees.		Cut Loaf.....	12 c
Rio, in papers	26 @27	Crushed.....	11¾c
3 grades do, 24 @26		Powdered.....	11¼c
Rio, in bulk 23¼@25c		Granulated.....	11 c
Java, in papers.. 34	c	Good fair N. O....	8¾c
Java, in bulk..... 33½	c	Fair do.....	8¼c
Teas.		Prime do.....	8¾c
Young Hyson 45c@$1 10		Choice do.....	9 c
Gunpowder..38c@ 1 10		White clarified do	10 c
Imperial..... 50c@ 90		*Molasses.*	
Japan..... 46c@ 85		Strictly ch. N. O.	60@65c
Oolong..... 25c@ 1 00		Prime.....	55@58c
Fancy..... 75		Good.....	50c
Souchong..... 35c@ 75		*Syrups.*	
Starch.		Ex. white drips..	70c
Pearl..... 6½c		Superb drips.....	65c
Silver gloss..... 9½c		Lower grades.....	35@50c
Corn..... 10½c		*Spices.*	
Rice.		Cloves.....	55 c
Choice Carolina.. 7½@8		Allspice.....	17 c
Patna..... 6¾		Cassia.....	33@35 c
Rangoon..... 7		Nutmegs.....	$1 25
Louisiana..... 6½@7		Pepper.....	19@20 c
Soda.			
Bi-carb, in kegs... 5	c	Irish soap, ₱ box..	$1 25
Bi-carb in 10-lb pkgs 5½c		S. S. Star, ₱ box...	6 75
Bi-carb, in 5 papers. 7	c	Babbitt's best, ₱ box	6 75
Candles.		St. Patrick do.....	6 75
Star, full weight. 17½c		Do. N. Y. city, ₱	$2 00
Stearine..... 13½c		German mottled do	7½c
Mould..... 11@12 c			

TOBACCO—The current rates are as follows:

Manufactured—		Six Twist.....	43@50c
Spun roll.....	60@63c	Smoking—Granulated.....	50@55c
Black Navy.....	50@56c	*Leaf Tobacco—*	
Black Twist.....	50@54c	Western leaf—	
Louisville Navy..	60@65c	Wrappers.....	15@20c
Louisville Cav..	60@70c	West'n leaf—lugs	9@12c
Virginia Navy..	53@58c	Ohio seed wrap'r	18@25c
Virginia Twist..	53@58c	Ohio seed filler.	9@13c
Double Thick..	60@63c	Conn. (choice) wrapper.....	60@70c
Flounders.....	60@75c	Conn. filler.....	16@18c
Bright pounds..	58@63c	Havana wrap'r	$2 50@3 50
Black Quarters..	53@58c	Havana wrap'r	35c@$1 25
Rough & Ready	53@58c	*Cigars—*	
Fine Cut plugs..	70@80c	Penn'a. seed.....	@15c
Fine Cut.....	55@60c	Penn'a. assortment	@20c
Cut and Dried..	55@60c	Seed & Havana.	30@ 35
Scotch Snuff.....	65@75c	Havana.....	60@150
Black Snuff.....	60@80c		

General Merchandise.

LUMBER.

The market contains an abundant supply for the season. Prices have ruled low. The present rats s are as follows:

Flooring, No. 1 per M.....	$25 0
Flooring, No. 2.....	21 0
Best No. 1 6-inch shingles.....	4 7
Molded weatherboard per M.....	29 0
Common surfaced boards.....	20 0
Barn boards.....	20 0
Sheeting boards.....	20 0
Moldings 5/8 per inch square per running foot.	2
Inside shutters, inch thick, 20c per square foot.	
Window frames and sash from $2 50 to $3 5 per window.	
Four panned doors from $2 50 to $3 50 each.	

WINDOW GLASS.

The following is a new list that has just been issued by the manufacturers. As will be observed the rates are materially lower than the old card rates, and make glass trade largely. The discounts have also been reduced accordingly. We now quote at the old Pittsburgh list:

PER BOX OF FIFTY FEET.—SINGLE STRENGTH.

	2d Quality.	1st Quality.	Dbl. sth.
6 by 8 to 7 by 9.....	$3 75	$ 4 50	$ 6 75
7 by 10 to 8 by 10.....	4 25	5 25	7 50
9 by 11 to 10 by 12.....	4 09	5 25	7 50
8 by 14 to 10 by 15.....	4 25	4 75	7 75
11 by 14 to 12 by 17.....	4 75	5 50	8 25
12 by 18 to 14 by 20.....		5 50	8 75
15 by 20 to 16 by 22.....		6 50	9 50
15 by 26 to 20 by 30.....		6 50	10 50
15 by 36 to 24 by 30.....		7 00	11 25
15 by 36 to 24 by 36.....		7 00	11 25
24 by 36 to 26 by 44.....		8 00	14 00
28 by 36 to 30 by 44.....		9 00	15 00
30 by 52 to 30 by 56.....			16 00
30 by 56 to 30 by 60.....			17 00
34 by 58 to 32 by 60.....			18 00
36 by 60 to 40 by 60.....			20 00

All sizes over 52 inches in length, and not making 24 united inches, will be charged 84 united inches bracket.

CORDAGE AND TWINE—The demand was fair Prices are as follows:

MANILLA ROPE.

	Per pound
¼ inch diameter and upward.....	17½c
⅜ inch diameter and upward.....	15½c
3 and 5-16 inch diameter.....	15½c
Hay, sisve and leather twine.....	19½c

OIL well DRILLING CABLES.

Hawser laid.....	14½c
Hawser laid bolt rope yarns.....	16½c
Sand pump rope.....	14½c

SISAL ROPE.

¼ inch diameter and upward.....	11½c
⅜ inch diameter.....	12½c
½ and 5-16 inch diameter.....	12½c
Hay, spoke and leather twine.....	12½c

NEW ZEALAND ROPE.

¼ inch diameter and upward.....	11½c
⅜ inch diameter and upward.....	12½c
½ and 5-16 inch diameter.....	12½c
Hay twine.....	11½c
Tarred lath twine.....	11½c

CANNED GOODS.

The following are the current rates:

2 ₱ Blackberries.....	$2 50
2 ₱ common pears..	2 00
2 ₱ pine apple.....	3 00
2 ₱ quinces.....	3 00
2 ₱ raspberries....	2 75
2 ₱ strawberries....	2 75
2 ₱ Lima beans.....	2 00
2 ₱ string beans....	2 00
2 ₱ Winslow's corn	2 25
2 ₱ peas.....	2 25
2 ₱ tomatoes.....	2 00

FOREIGN FRUITS—Are in fair demand. Prices, however, are without change. We quote as follows: Currants, new, 5½@6c; Patras ₱ lb. Sultanas 18c; Dates 9@10c ₱ lb. Carolina Rice, Chinese 5½c. Prunes 7½@8½c. Almonds—Languedoc 25c do shelled 38c; do Princess 37c; do Jordan 50c; do Ivica 25c. Walnuts—Grenoble 16c; Marbot 16c; Sicily filberts 15c. Smyrna figs 18@20c. Brazil nuts 10c. Mackerel—No. 1 Shore, ₱ bbl.; Mess—Messina, ₱ box, $7 00. Cocoanuts $7 00 per hundred.

WOODEN WARE—The following are the present rates:

No. 1 tubs ₱ dozen.....	$7 5
No. 2 tubs ₱ dozen.....	6 0
No. 3 tubs ₱ dozen.....	5 0
2-hoop pails ₱ dozen..	1 7
3-hoop pails ₱ dozen..	2 0
Glove washboard ₱ dozen (patented)..	2 7
I. X. L. washboards ₱ dozen.....	2 2
Iron City washboards ₱ dozen.....	2 0

Brooms—The following are the current rates of Union brooms:

Patent screw ferrule carpet.....	$ 4 2
Parlor ferrule parlor.....	4 0
No. 4 carpet.....	3 4
No. 3 carpet.....	3 0
No. 6 hurl, 4-string, first quality.....	3 5
No. 5 hurl, 3-string, first quality.....	3 2
No. 4 hurl, 3-string, first quality.....	3 0
No. 3 hurl, 2-string, first quality.....	2 2
No. 5 stock hrald, 3-string.....	2 7
No. 4 stock brald, 3-string.....	2 5
No. 5 varnished handles, hurl.....	2 7
No. 4 varnished handles, hurl.....	2 5
No. 2 common.....	2 0
No. 3 shakers.....	2 5
Toy brooms.....	1 25@1 5
Toy whisk brooms.....	1 25@1 7

The market is quiet but firm. Jobbers expect, however, for an early improvement is favorable.

BROOM CORN—Is dull market, but prospect, however, for an early improvement is favorable.

Green sealed cows.....	7@ 7½c
Green salted steers, light.....	8@ 8½c
Green salted steers, heavy.....	9@ 9½c
Green salted calf.....	11@12 c
Green butcher cows.....	6 c
Green butcher steers, light.....	7 c
Green butcher steers, heavy.....	8 c
Green butcher calf.....	10 c

Large sales are coming now to report in regard to this article. The demand is slowly improving, whilst activity is looked for before the close of the present month. Sales are made by the following, prices continue to rule low. We quote as follows:

Oak sole, city.....	$ 33@ 3
Oak sole, city.....	30@ 4
Red sole, B. A. heavy and mid.....	33@ 3
Red sole, Ormoco.....	29@ 3
Red sole, good dgd.....	25@ 2
Oak, rough.....	33@ 3
Harness, city oak.....	37@ 4
Harness, country.....	30@ 3
Harness, No. 2 and common.....	29@ 3
Fair skirting.....	43@ 4
Fair bridle, ₱ doz.....	80 00@70 00
Belt leather.....	40@ 4
Finished calf.....

CITY MATTERS.

For eighty-five cents per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 23, First National Bank, PITTSBURGH, PA., February 16, 1876.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum.	WIND. Dir.	WIND. Force.	Weath.
7 A. M..	29.919	21	71	N. W.	Fresh.	Cloudy
2 P. M..	29.946	25	75	W.	Brisk.	Ltsn'w
9 P. M.	29.028	24	74	W.	Fresh.	Ltsn'w

Mean barometer..29.960 Highest thermom....26
Meanthermon.... 23.3 Lowest thermom....19

Doesn't Like It.

The *Presbyterian Banner* severely condemns the sale of articles, used by Moody and Sankey, which took place at the close of the Philadelphia meetings. It says: "To have done things in this way at the close of a charity fair, would have been sufficiently revolting to good taste; but at the closing up of a series of precious religious meetings it was utterly indefensible. If funds were wanting, it would have been better to have sent the ushers through the streets with the long poles and red muslin bags, soliciting nickels and postal currency from all whom they might meet."

A Correction.

In Monday's issue, in the matter of the application of Daniel Burgan for discharge under the insolvent laws, we stated that his discharge had been refused, exceptions having been taken on the ground that he had not turned over all his goods to the assignee, etc., and that his discharge had been refused. This was a mistake, the court having granted a discharge and ordered his release. A partial hearing had taken place on the Saturday previous, and the court continued the case until last Saturday, when the discharge was granted as stated. It is due to Mr. Burgan that the matter be set right.

Prompt Payment of Election Officers

City election officers are allowed only $1.50 for holding a city election, whether they are occupied one or two days. Prompt pay goes far toward making small wages acceptable, and knowing that city warrants are now forced upon the street, the election officers who visited City Hall yesterday were not over sanguine in their expectations. Their surprise and satisfaction, however, Controller Snodgrass announced that he had made arrangements for paying cash instead of in warrants. The total expense of the city election is about $750, and the Controller raised the money on his own credit. This will prevent warrants for $1 50 each being floated about the city until next August.

Allegheny Street Committee.

This committee held their regular meeting last evening.

A number of citizens interested in the construction of a main sewer on Union avenue were before the committee, advocating the resumption of work on that improvement. It was decided that the papers from Councils ordering the stopping of work on said sewer be placed on file, and the Engineer be instructed to set the contractor at work.

Mr. J. C. Rhodes and others asked that the contract for the construction of a lateral sewer on Western avenue between Grant avenue and Bidwell street, be cancelled and the ordinance repealed. The matter was held over.

The Street Commissioner was instructed to repair the road running from the Troy Hill road to East Ohio street.

The Street Commissioner of the Western District was instructed to repair Woods Run avenue.

The Engineer was instructed to establish a grade on Humboldt, Filbert and Valley streets. He was also instructed to report a grade on Harrison street, at the next meeting of the committee.

The matter of improving McClure avenue was taken up and discussed, after which it was resolved to visit and inspect that thoroughfare before taking action.

It was resolved to reduce the daily wages of street pavers fifty cents, and of common laborers twenty-five cents.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

United States District Court—Judge McCandless.

Alex. Harris, of Brunsville, filed a petition for the adjudication of himself in bankruptcy. Referred to Register Rogers.

Wenzell & Baker gave bond for the release of their stock seized and the same was ordered released.

Common Pleas No. 1—Judges Stowe and Collier.

George S. Howland and Sophia Howland, his wife, and Caroline Weaver vs. John Stewart: action for damages caused to plaintiffs' property by alleged improper drainage of defendant's property. On trial.

William Diem vs. Jacob Trax. Verdict for plaintiff for $143 75.

In the matter of the voluntary assignment of Alex. Tindle, Jr., the exceptions filed to the Auditor's report were overruled, and the report was confirmed absolutely.

Jacob Hershey *et al.* vs. Isaac M. Registe ter. Defendent confessed judgment for $340 54.

Hostick vs. Brinker. Motion to take off non suit allowed.

Robert Moorhead vs. Richard Knowlson. Motion by plaintiff for new trial.

The Aldine Printing Company vs. J. R. Foster & Co. On trial.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Beal vs. Clemens; Snell vs. Jones; Katz vs. King; Robinson use vs. Jackson, *et al.*; Devore & Wallace vs. Truman, *et al.*; Barr *et al.* vs. McCoskey; Pollock vs. Gallagher, *et al.*; Williams vs. Smith, *et al.*; Nieland vs. Fox *et al.*; Nation Trust Company vs. Davis; Hutchinson vs. McCullough, *et al.*; Wm. E. Nevin vs. Corbett; Weldon *et al.* vs. McDermott; Wood vs. England; Rosh vs. Ehlers; Gimber vs. Schaffer, *et al.*

Common Pleas No. 2—Judges Kirkpatrick

In the slander case of Lewis Woods and wife vs. Gottleib Miller, the jury returned a verdict of six and a quarter cents damages and costs.

Patrick Kearns vs. William Brown *et al.* Motion for a new trial on the part of the defendant.

Marshall Cooper vs. W. H. Gordon; book account. Verdict for plaintiff for $97 61.

George S. South vs. J. S. West; action on a promissory note. Verdict for plaintiff for $1,013 43.

James G. Halliday vs. Herman Ross; *sci. fa.* on a mechanic's lien. Jury out.

Dr. R. Musselman and S. P. Dick, partners as Musselman & Co., vs. Lory *et al.*; action on a promissory note. Verdict for plaintiffs for $303.

John Law vs. Robert Coward; action for work done. Verdict for plaintiff for $375.

Griffin McGeary vs. John Updegraft; action for gravel furnished. Verdict for plaintiff for $13 90.

James Hay vs. Jr. L. H. Willard, owner or reputed owner; action for work done. Non suit.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

United Building and Loan Association vs. Gray *et al.*; Bank of Pittsburgh vs. Milligan, Hersberg & Co.; Ketchem vs. Boyle; Garlick & Siezar vs. Brownlee; Stein for use vs. Lower St. Clair township; Pittsburgh Book and News Co. vs. Loy *et al.*; Heyl vs. Beyor; Pittsburgh Gas Co. vs. Eighth ward school directors; McCantley vs. Shannon: Sheppard for use vs. Pittsburgh National Coal and Coke Co.; Warner, Rhodes & Co. vs. Thompson.

THE REFORM SCHOOL.

The Report of the Sanitary Condition of the Institution.

The report of the Special Committee of the County Medical Society, to inquire into the origin and nature of the endemic which prevailed at the Reform School in the winter of 1874 and 1875, which was published in full in the COMMERCIAL of yesterday, is not only valuable as bearing upon the sanitary condition of the building, but of general interest as affecting the management of such institutions in the essential matters of ventilation, drainage, etc. The report, we should have stated, was given to the public by a unanimous vote of the society, and it is deserving of a very careful perusal. The main facts set forth are: First—Defective ventilation. In the cells, corridor and halls of the boys' department, there are about 124,000 cubic feet of air space, which, proportioned among one hundred and thirty-five cells, gives nearly nine hundred and twenty-three cubic feet for each inmate—not quite half the amount requisite for a healthy sleeping apartment. The girls' corridor was in no better condition as to ventilation, while on the fourth range, not used by inmates, cells and platforms contained piles of old clothing, rags, etc. Second—Defective drainage. The girls' infirmary had opening into it a door from a very offensive water closet, and was overcrowded with patients during the endemic. In the girls' bath room was an unused tub, through which a "foul, fetid and most disgusting drainage" emptied by a pipe from the officers' kitchen. The privies were still more objectionable, as regarded the condition of the water closets. The condition of the privy vaults, as described in the report, was fearfully disgusting—the impurity of the water. The sewage pipes are discharged in the river in dangerous proximity to the supply pipe through which is drawn the water for use of the inmates. There can be no doubt that the water used by the inmates was impure, either as taken from the river or from the wells on the premises. All these matters are fully discussed in the report, and much more of interest to the public and the medical profession. We heartily concur in the conclusion of the committee, that even if the origin of the endemic has not been positively determined, sufficient defects have been shown in the arrangement and management of the Reform School, in a sanitary point of view, to condemn its further use for such purpose. With these fearful evils to contend with, coupled with the internal management, is it to be wondered at that the inmates generally were not reformed?

CITY FINANCES.

Tax Levy and Appropriations for 1876—The Ordinance as Recommended by the Committee.

The Finance Committee of City Councils met yesterday afternoon, Mr. Shipton in the chair, the special business being the consideration of the Appropriation ordinance for 1876. The sub-committee previously appointed made report and each item of estimated receipts and expenditures was examined and discussed at length. After some minor changes the ordinance as reported was approved and recommended to Councils for enactment. We give the ordinance in full:

AN TAX LEVY.

An ordinance levying taxes, assessing water rents, and making appropriations for the year 1876.

SECTION 1.—Be it ordained and enacted by the city of Pittsburgh, in Select and Common Councils assembled, and it is hereby enacted by authority of the same. That for the purpose of providing sufficient revenue to meet the ordinary expenses of the city, to pay the interest on outstanding bonds, and to discharge all other liabilities now due, or which may become payable during said year 1876, taxes shall be and are hereby levied and assessed upon all property and other objects of taxation, as follows:

1. *City Tax.*—Upon all property taxable for State or county purposes, four mills upon each dollar of valuation, except the property in said city designated as rural, upon which the tax shall be assessed at two-thirds of said rate.

2. *Fire Tax.*—Upon all property taxable for State or county purposes, one and one tenth mill upon each dollar of valuation, except the property in said city designated as rural, upon which the tax shall be assessed at two-thirds of said rate.

3. *Water Works Interest Tax.*—Upon all property taxable for State or county purposes, one and two-third mills upon each dollar of valuation, except the property in said city designated as rural, upon which the tax shall be assessed at two-thirds of said rate.

4. *Sinking Fund Tax.*—Upon all property taxable for State or county purposes, one mill upon each dollar of valuation, except the property in said city designated as rural, upon which the tax shall be assessed at two-thirds of said rate.

5. *Old City Special Tax.*—Upon all property taxable for State or county purposes within the limits of the city of Pittsburgh, as it existed prior to the consolidation, under the act of April, 1867, three-fourths of one mill upon each dollar of valuation, as a special tax for the separate indebtedness of said district.

6. *Lawrenceville Special Tax.*—Upon all property taxable for State or county purposes within the limits of the former borough of Lawrenceville, two-thirds of one mill upon each dollar of valuation, as a special tax for the separate indebtedness of said district.

7. *South Side Special Tax.*—Upon all property taxable for State or county purposes within the limits of the former borough of Ormsby, one mill; East Birmingham, two and one-half mills; St. Clair, one mill; Allentown, one-third of one mill; Mount Washington, one mill; Temperanceville, three mills, and four mills to pay annual installments on bonds issued since consolidation for grading and paving Main street in said borough: Birmingham, one mill, to redeem bonds and pay interest on same, issued since consolidation, for grading and paving, under old borough law.

8. Upon all goods, wares and merchandise, and upon all articles of trade and commerce sold in said city in any manner, not herein otherwise provided for, one and one-half mills upon each dollar of sales.

9. Upon all sales of goods, wares and merchandise and articles of trade or commerce sold by commission merchants in said city, one and one-half mills upon each dollar of said sales.

10. Upon the actual yearly sales of each and every person or firm engaged in the trade, business or occupation of retailing for his, her or their benefit, vinous, fermented or distilled liquors, ten mills on each dollar of said sales.

11. Upon the actual yearly sales of each and every person or firm engaged in the business or occupation of an auctioneer, two mills upon each dollar of said sales.

12. Upon the gross commission or brokerage of all merchandise brokers, forwarding and commission merchants, not including commissions on sales, fifteen mills on each dollar of said commissions.

13. Upon the average line of discounts of brokers, banks and banking institutions, one mill on each dollar.

14. Upon the gross receipts of insurance companies, insurance agencies, express companies and telegraph companies, three mills upon each dollar of said receipts.

15. Upon the gross receipts of persons engaged in the business of keeping billiard tables, bagatelle alleys or bagatelle tables for public use, fifteen mills upon each dollar of said receipts.

SEC. 2.—And at the above rates the City Assessor shall assess said taxes.

SEC. 3.—And at the following rates the Water Assessor shall assess water rents:

First.—The schedule of water rents for the year 1876 shall be increased ten per centum over assessment of 1875.

SEC. 4.—That the amount necessary to pay the interest on the separate indebtedness of the old city and the Borough of Lawrenceville, and South Side boroughs shall be taken from the receipts from the special taxes of the districts aforesaid, and placed in Appropriation No. 1, to which warrants shall be drawn for all interest accruing or accrued on the debts of said districts, respectively.

SEC. 5.—That the balance of said receipts from special taxes (after payment of interest) shall be paid into a sinking fund for the district from which it is collected, and shall be used for the payment of the special debt of said district.

SEC. 6.—That the revenue of said city for the year 1876, arising from the taxes, loans, and all other sources, together with any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, are hereby appropriated for the following purposes:

APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1876.

*1 Interest, premium and tax on city loan	$ 216,440
2 Salaries	26,700
3 Printing	10,000
4 Fire department	130,000
5 Police	105,000
6 Water works	100,000
7 Contingent	50,000
8 Pittsburgh Gas Company	28,000
9 Markets	12,000
10 Monongahela wharf	2,000
11 Allegheny wharf	750
12 Weigh scales	1,000
13 Contingent Fund	55,000
14 Board of Health	8,000
15 East Liberty Company	12,000
16 City property	6,000
18 Finance fund	10,000
19 Sinking Fund	50,000
21 City Hall furnishing, cleaning and repairing	5,440
22 Roads	20,000
23 Surveys	9,000
24 Water Extension Loan interest	328,320
26 Water Extension Loan Sinking Fund	90,000
28 Special Sinking Fund	7,000
29 Lawrenceville Sinking Fund	2,250
30 South Side wharf	1,250
34 Equalization	18,000
35 South Side Gas Company	16,000
36 First Water Loan Interest and Sinking Fund	24,000
38 West Pittsburgh Gas Company	6,000
39 Repaving fund	30,000
	$1,543,750

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS. FOR 1876.

City tax, 4 mills	$ 480,000
Fire tax, 1 1-10 mills	132,000
Old city special tax, ¾ mills	7,000
Lawrenceville special tax, ⅔ mills	3,250
Water works int., 1½	206,000
Sinking fund, 1... 1¼	120,000
Business, 1¼	165,000
Water rents	288,000
Monongahela wharf	2,000
Allegheny wharf	2,000
Mayor's office	27,000
Diamond markets	15,000
Fifth avenue markets	2,500
City guager	2,000
Vehicle license	20,000
Street railroads	3,500
Building inspector	2,500
Interest on bank balance	5,000
Streets	10,000
South Side market	1,000
Weigh scales	4,500
South Side wharf	3,000
Total	$1,543,750

SOUTH SIDE SEPARATE INDEBTEDNESS.

Twenty-fourth ward, borough of Ormsby	$ 2,250 99
Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth wards, borough of East Birmingham	19,510 84
Twenty-seventh ward, borough of St. Clair	2,125 68
Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth wards, borough of Birmingham, (Special)	4,300 00
Thirty-first ward, borough of Allentown	501 82
Thirty-second ward, borough of Mt. Washington	2,306 96
Thirty-sixth ward, borough of Temperanceville	3,881 25
Thirth-sixth ward, borough of Temperanceville, Special for Main street	4,500 00
	$39,559 40

[The estimated receipts and expenditures for South Side indebtedness are the same in the several items and total.]

The ordinance will be brought up in Councils at the special meeting to-day.

PITTSBURGH FEMALE COLLEGE.

Literary and Musical Entertainment.

The young ladies of the Pittsburgh Female College will give the first of a series of Centennial entertainments on to-morrow (Friday) evening. It will consist of literary and musical performances, and a very enjoyable time may be expected by all who have the good fortune to attend.

We are pleased to learn that the winter term has opened with a full attendance at the college, the institution being now crowded with boarding scholars. The great success of the Pittsburgh Female College is without a parallel.

The Gas Question in Indianapolis.

The citizens of Indianapolis are having a contest with the old gas company of that city, and the Councils have been petitioned by five thousand consumers of gas, to grant the use of the streets to a new company, who propose to manufacture gas upon the plan now used in this city by the Consolicated Company. The *Journal* says that the old company cannot possibly claim a monopoly of the streets, and that if the new company really "meant business," they should have the right of way, with a stipulation that any sale or consolidation will work a forfeiture of the charter. The people want cheap gas, but are determined not to be tricked or bamboozled. The paper adds: "A committee of five councilmen has been appointed to visit Pittsburgh and investigate the new process of manufacture, as well as the standing and reliability of the company now asking a charter from this city, and to report, probably, at the next meeting of the Council."

THE ELECTIONS.

A List of the Councilmen Elect of Pittsburgh and Allegheny.

We give below a list of the Councilmen elected in the two cities, as far as they can be ascertained from the returns at the Prothonotary's office:

PITTSBURGH.

SELECT COUNCIL.

First ward—Frederick Schlid, R.
Second ward—Reese Owens, R.
Third ward—John Shipton, R., full term; E. M. O'Neill, R., unexpired term.
Fourth ward—W. A. Herron, R.
Fifth ward—J. H. Caldwell, D.
Sixth ward—H. F. Dannals, R.
Seventh ward—W. S. Foster, R.
Eighth ward—J. S. Lambie, R.
Ninth ward—James Boyd, R.
Tenth ward—J. Ahl, D.
Eleventh ward—S. Barckley, R.; W. J. Moore, R.
Twelfth ward—A. Griffiths, D.
Thirteenth ward—C. P. Duff, R.; James M. Sterling, Cit.
Fourteenth ward—W. J. Fullerton, Cit.
Fifteenth ward—John H. Sawyer, D.
Sixteenth ward—Robert Watson, R.
Seventeenth ward—W. T. Taylor, Cit.
Eighteenth ward—N. P. Sawyer, D.
Nineteenth ward—John MacConnell, R.
Twentieth ward—John R. Bamm, R.
Twenty-first ward—James Littell, R.
Twenty-second ward—J. M. Hoeh, R.
Twenty-third ward—C. Hines, R.
Twenty-fourth ward—J. S. Atkinson, Cit.
Twenty-fifth ward—James Patterson, D.
Twenty-sixth ward—John Bradley, R.
Twenty-seventh ward—Patrick Carr, D.
Twenty-eighth ward—James Kerr, D.
Twenty-ninth ward—Thomas Miller, D.
Thirtieth ward—Wm. H. Nantker, Cit.
Thirty-first ward—A. Smith, R.
Thirty-second ward—George Noble, R.
Thirty-third ward—John Kelly, D.
Thirty-fourth ward—J. D. Buckley, D.
Thirty-fifth ward—Robert Gray, R.
Thirty-sixth ward—Michael Rodgers, D.

COMMON COUNCIL.

First ward—P. J. Higgins, D.
Second ward—B. Gallisaith, R.
Third ward—Hugh Mahon, R.
Fourth ward—W. W. Thomson, R.
Fifth ward—D. Egan, D.
Sixth ward—Thomas Walker and Charles Manning, R.
Seventh ward—George Wamhoff, R.
Eighth ward—M. Johnston, R., and H. Rea, Jr., Cit.
Ninth ward—P. Hanlon, R.
Tenth ward—F. H. Weiser, D.
Eleventh ward—H. Hoffkamp, R.
Twelfth ward—M. O'Donnell, A. Schuman, D.
Thirteenth ward—J. Molamphy, Cit., S. Bell, R.
Fourteenth ward—W. S. Pier, Jacob Kintzer, R.
Fifteenth ward—Edward Frauenheim, D.
Sixteenth ward—W. J. Fennerty, G. H. Blume, D.
Seventeenth ward—S. G. Wainwright, R., J. W. Campbell, Cit.
Eighteenth ward—Neal McCafferty, D.
Nineteenth ward—R. McLaren, R.
Twentieth ward—W. B. Negley, R.
Twenty-first ward—John Hall, R.
Twenty-second ward—Newton McGarvin, R.
Twenty-third ward—Robert Young, R.
Twenty-fourth ward—Robert Young, R.
Twenty-fifth ward—G. G. Rahauser, R.
Twenty-sixth ward—Charles Schwarm, John W. Kemler, R.
Twenty-seventh ward—Wm. Kinkney, R.
Twenty-eighth ward—W. M. Kricher, D.
Twenty-ninth ward—N. Miller, D.
Thirtieth ward—Robert Kelly, Cit.
Thirty-first ward—John Forsythe, D.
Thirty-second ward—C. A. Bouener, R.
Thirty-third ward—W. Kelly, Cit.
Thirty-fourth ward—Patrick Foley, D.
Thirty-fifth ward—P. Wilkins, R.
Thirty-sixth ward—S. H. French, D.

ALLEGHENY.

SELECT COUNCIL.

First ward—E. McKelvey, R.
Second ward—Alfred Slack, R.
Third ward—Thomas Brown, R.
Fourth ward—J. E. Patterson, R.
Fifth ward—W. W. Speer.
Sixth ward—W. H. Weckers, R.
Seventh ward—A. J. Chambers.
Eighth ward—James Onsaker.
Ninth ward—R. Riggs, (full term). Ed. Sweeney, (unexpired term of Mr. Weaver).
Tenth ward—Henry Kreling.
Eleventh ward—Charles H. Hartman.

COMMON COUNCIL.

First ward—Samuel Smith, Stephen Mercer.
Second ward—James B. Orr, James P. Gregg, Jr., James Hunter.
Third Ward—Wm. Swindell, John Fairman, A. W. Bredel, J. L. Kerr, Charles Welmer.
Fourth ward—Lewis Hall, E. M. Blair, A. D. Armstrong, Hugh McGuire.
Fifth ward—James Laughlin, J. Brown.
Sixth ward—John Farkhill, C. Steffen, Jr., John Zeasler.
Seventh ward—G. R. Biber.
Eighth ward—Smith Walker, August Harlander.
Ninth ward—John Hughes, D. H. McCarty.
Tenth ward—G. W. Snaman, Jacob Born.
Eleventh ward—James G. Walsh, John Seiling.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

A GRAND gymnastic exhibition in aid of the Hamill monument fund is talked of.

ATTENTION is directed to the advertisement in the appropriate column of a lost check for $1,031 45, drawn by Joseph Pearce & Co.

THE seventh annual exhibition of the Washington district schools will take place on the 21st and 22d inst., at the school hall, Fortieth street.

J. B. YOUNG & CO, Phœnix Roll Works, corner of Forty-second street and Valley Railroad, have started up, and are now running full time.

DAVID Agnew, aged sixty-eight, an old resident of Allegheny, died suddenly Tuesday evening at Bellevue, on the Fort Wayne Railroad, of heart disease.

THE Reform School investigation will be resumed to-morrow morning, at eleven o'clock, at the office, corner of Market street and Fourth avenue, second floor.

AN outbuilding belonging to George Blackstock, on Ferry street, Allegheny, was destroyed by fire about one o'clock yesterday. Loss about $300. Incendiary.

WORK on the Northwestern Railroad bridge across the Allegheny will be commenced as soon as the weather permits. Its Pittsburgh terminus will be at the foot of Forty-first street.

TWO Penn avenue saloon keepers, Adam Dussing and Thomas Delaney, were prosecuted yesterday before Alderman Koenig for selling liquor on Sunday. Mrs. Mary J. Allen did the swearing.

MR. Parker Sr., who was attacked by highway robbers, on Monday evening, in Allegheny City, is not a "reverend" as stated. His son is a minister, and the mistake occurred by confounding the names.

A BULLOCK broke away from a butcher's pen near Preble avenue, about eleven o'clock yesterday morning, and on the avenue he took Patrick Donnelly's position upon his horns and tossed him against a fence, cutting his head severely.

IT is reported that a safe in the office of Mr. Nichols, No. 4,025 Butler street, was robbed on Tuesday of about $300 in cash and some papers. G. W. Nichols, Jr., says that on Tuesday evening he inadvertantly left the safe unlocked. The police are investigating the matter.

THE Humane Society has received information from Superintendent Street, who is now in Washington city, looking after the claim of the Congress was not a fact, but the transportation of five stock. Mr. Street is to be heard before the committee this (Thursday) morning.

SAMUEL W. SPENCER, Esq., late Superintendent of Wm. Semple's, Allegheny, will hereafter represent the old established and well known wholesale boot and shoe House of Gill & Bro., No. 253 Liberty street, Pittsburgh. Mr. Spencer is well and favorably known in this city, as an energetic, prompt and reliable business man.

On the charge of keeping a bawdy house, Julia Howard was arrested at her domicile, about eleven o'clock last night, by Lieutenant Tyre and a squad of police. In the house were found Ella Howard, daughter of Julia, a young girl named Mary Smith and two young men. The prisoners were locked up. The house is on Old avenue, near High street.

CAPTAIN JAMES C. MCVAY, President of the First National Bank of Yankton, Dakota, is on a flying visit to his old friends in this city. He reports all the nomadic tribes of adventurous spirits in the West preparing for a raid on the Black Hills as soon as navigation opens. Commodore Thomas Jefferson Missouri, Transportation Company, is preparing to carry passengers from Yankton to the nearest point to the Hills.

Wilkins Township.

The following is the ticket elected in this township, on Tuesday: School Directors, Henry R. Chalfant, John W. Milligan; Assessor, Thomas McKee; Assistant Assessors, James R. Denniston, John F. McCombs; Supervisors, Thomas Anderson, Sr., Ephraim Smith; Treasurer, John Sheaffer; Auditor, John Black; Town Clerk, Samuel Creelman; Constable, Wm. Ross.

Never Was Such a Chance

for parties wishing to go to a warm climate as is offered by Captain Chaffin, of the firm of Chaffin, Staples & Co., Richmond, Va. He can be found at the Central Hotel for a few days, where you can buy or exchange for first class farms.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

HOMEOPATHIC.

Medicines and Publications.

The only place to get reliable and pure Homeopathic preparations is at George W. Backofen's, No. 161 Smithfield street, above Sixth avenue.

Bassford, the Photographer,

at No. 101½ Sixth street, has one of the best rooms for his business that we have ever looked into. He has all the appliances for making good work, and being one of the best operators in the country, he can do this work with so much less trouble and expense than many others, that his charges are comparatively small. Photographs (vignette) which cost $3, $3 50 and $5 at other establishments are made at Bassford's at $2 50 per dozen.

German Steam Flour Mill.

Pure Rye Flour, Cornmeal and Chopped Feed always on hand. Goods delivered free of charge. Cash paid for grain. Second and Middle streets, Allegheny City.

At the Gospel Meeting

to be held this evening at the First Presbyterian Church, Wood street, Rev. John Gillespie will preach a short sermon, to be followed by a brief voluntary meeting. Seats free and all are cordially invited. On Friday evening Dr. S. J. Wilson will preach a special sermon to young men.

Headache.

It is an established fact that the extract of cranberries and hemp combined by Dr. Miller, 227 Spruce street, Philadelphia, Pa., permanently cures the most obstinate cases of dyspepsia, nervous or dull headache. It is an absolute specific for Neuralgia and Nervousness. Prepared in pills. Fifty cents a box. Sent by mail. R. L. Sellers & Co., 45 Wood street, Pittsburgh. tvths.

William P. Bennett,

Printer, Blank Book Maker, and Manufacturer of the Excelsior Pocket Table Case, Northeast corner Wood street and Fourth avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa. Orders by mail will receive prompt attention.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

Here, as elsewhere, patriotism appears to be at a discount, if we are to judge by the patronage bestowed upon the really good Centennial play now running at the Opera House. But when Philadelphia, the headquarters of all things Centennial, fails in this regard, no better can be expected of Pittsburgh. Mr. Henry Peterson's new drama, "Helen," a fine literary and dramatic production, and glowing with the true national fervor, fails to get more than a few score people into one of the largest theaters there each evening. Here we have "The Men of '76," similar in the characteristics marking "Helen," played excellently by Mr Dominick Murray and the company, and supplied with all necessary aids in the way of appropriate scenery and costumes, yet the audiences are very slim in number. This is not as it should be. "The Men of '76" will be repeated to-night.

The Troubadours.

The Troubadours' entertainment for the benefit of the Home for the Friendless, is creating a great deal of interest, and there will be a jammed house. It takes place at Library Hall, to-morrow evening.

Library Hall—Tableaux Vivant.

There was a grand rush at Hale's music store, 103 Smithfield street, yesterday morning, when the sale of seats for the tableaux vivant, for the benefit of St. Peter's Episcopal church, commenced. The sale will be continued to-day. The performance will be given next Tuesday evening.

Trimble's Varieties Theater.

Agnes Sutherland, Andy and Addie Hughes, the Bennett sisters, Mlle. D'Atalis and her pupils, the female minstrels and ever so many more attractive and popular performers announced to appear this evening in a new list of acts. The house is crowded at every performance.

Mme. Arabella Goddard's Concert.

Mme. Arabella Goddard's first and *last* concert in this city, prior to her departure for Europe, will be given at Library Hall on Monday evening next. Concerning the artists who accompany her, the Montreal *Star* says: "A most cultivated assembly, composed of the *creme de la creme* of Montreal society, was in attendance last night in Association Hall at the first concert given by this eminent English pianist. The programme was so well arranged that nothing would have made it stronger, for more symmetrical and more interesting to every intelligent lover of music. The fair concert-giver was accompanied by three artists of some reputation here and elsewhere, but were completely dwarfed in such company. Miss Randall possesses a sweet and flexible, if not powerful, mezzo-soprano organ, which she uses with judgment and considerable effect. In the duet from 'Figlia' she was heard to the greatest advantage, but neither she nor Mr. L. Melbourne, who has a light but cultivated baritone voice, made much impression upon the audience. Mr. Mark Kelzer is a young violinist of promise, but at present is by no means in the front rank of soloists. His method and manipulation, however, are good, and he has evidently been trained in a good school. He was encouragingly received, and obtained a fair share of applause."

The sale of seats will commence to-morrow morning, at Kleber's, Wood street.

Miss Effie Ellsler

Already announced as Effie Ellsler will be the stellar attraction at the Opera House next week, and a bright little star she is. "Pauvertte, or the Avalanche," will be played four nights, with all the scenery used at the Euclid Avenue Opera House, Cleveland, where it was put upon the stage in magnificent style. Miss Ellsler will then give us "A Tou Jours," for three nights, the charming *Rosalind*, in which role she has no equal on the stage. She will be supported by Mr. Maurice Pendleton, leading man at the Cleveland Opera House, and an actor of approved power and ability. This engagement does not prove successful, we very much miss our guess.

Bryant's Minstrels.

We are to be favored, next week, with a visit from Bryant's Minstrels, one of the leading minstrel organizations of the country. The troupe includes Neil Bryant, Lew Benedict, an old favorite, who is better than ever before; Frank Bangler, formerly of Delehanty & Hengler; Adams and Lee, the favorite comedians and banjoists; Goss and Fox, song and dance men; a first-class quartette, the favorite quartette, composed of the Welling Brothers and J. W. French. The company will appear in new programmes, and will introduce a number of novelties in minstrelsy. The performances by the Bryants promise to be the best performances of the season, and no lover of minstrelsy can afford to miss them. The seats are for sale at Hale's, 103 Smithfield street.

"The Lady of Lyons."

The Bulwer Club will present Bulwer's beautiful drama, "The Lady of Lyons," at Library Hall, next Monday evening, for the benefit of the School of Design. The sale of tickets will begin on Saturday morning, at Hale's music store.

The Pigeon Shoot.

The first pigeon shooting match, between G. B. Lovett, of Allegheny city, and A. H. Bogardus, champion of the world, for $200 a side, came off at Friendship Park yesterday afternoon, in presence of a large number of spectators. The match resulted in favor of the champion, who got ninety-one birds against eighty-six for Lovett. A match will take place to-day for a purse of $500.

THE McKee, Sheridan and Juniata boat clubs of the South Side have been consolidated and purpose to match a boat house similar to the Clipper house.

McKEAN COUNTY OIL FIELD.

Activity in Development—Daily Average Production—Character of the Oil—Remarkable Features of the Territory—Pipe Lines in Operation—The Village of Bradford—How to Get There.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

BRADFORD, McKEAN COUNTY, Pa., {
February 12, 1875.

Considerable activity is manifest in developments in this region, at present. Last summer much interest was felt in relation to this territory. Mystery shrouded a test well, then drilling, and it was used as a powerful factor, in the bear interest, to effect a drooping market. But during the fall months the discouraging prospects in relation to the price of oil, the absence of any bear strikes, and the brief average life of most of the producing wells here, all tended to check the progress of development.

But the improvement in the market, combined, doubtless, with the mildness of the season, which has been favorable to operations, has given a decided impetus to the business at this locality. There are at present forty-five rigs up or in process of building. During last month twelve new wells came in, with an average daily yield of thirteen barrels. Not one dry hole was struck during the month. The largest producing well here is the Prentice, which came in early in January, with a daily production of one hundred barrels. It soon declined, from the parafine closing the crevices, which is the bane of all oil wells in this region, more or less. Being torpedoed subsequently, the production came up and it is now doing about seventy barrels.

The average daily yield of this entire district isonly between three and four hundred barrels. It is worth at the wells $2 50 a barrel. The oil is heavy, ranging 40 degrees gravity. When refined it yields between fifty and fifty-five per cent. of illuminating oil and nearly forty per cent. of lubricating, the remainder being made up of nominal. Heavier oils from twenty-eight degrees to thirty-five degrees gravity have been found elsewhere, but they always contain a large percentage of sarbyl, etc., as well as sulphur, and are not desirable for refining purposes. The oil of the Butler county region has a gravity of about forty-seven degrees, and, when refined, yields from seventy to seventy-two and a half per cent of illuminating oil, with a large percentage of residuum and waste.

A very remarkable feature of the region is the absence, in most instances, of the well defined, hard rock in which the oil is found in the Oil Creek and Allegheny river districts. It is found here at different horizons in various wells, and is present in some instances in the shape of sand, in others in thin, flaky sand stones. The only locality in which what may be designated as a sand rock, resembling that in the lower districts, has been struck is in the east and northerly of this village. Another interesting feature is the universal presence of large quantities of gas in the wells.

There are two pipe lines in operation at present. Prentice, Barbour & Co., have one about two miles above here, five or six miles long, and branching to the wells, with the shipping point near Barrett.

The other is that of the Union Pipe Line Company. It is about eighteen miles long from the central point to the shipping place at Olean, on the Atlantic and Great Western Railway, and has branches from the central point to the wells.

There is no probability, from present indications, that the amount of oil produced in this region will act injuriously upon the market. Some of the leading producers here are of the opinion that, at the present rate of development, the average daily production of this district, by the end of the year, would not exceed a thousand barrels, and the bulk of that is used for lubricating purposes.

The population of this village is between eight and nine hundred, and has increased about fifty per cent. since last June. A number of new buildings have been erected. There are two hotels, where very good accommodations, for an oil town, can be found. Both have been renovated and refurnished. The prices are very reasonable.

Any of the readers of the COMMERCIAL who may desire to visit this locality, will find the best route to be by the well appointed Allegheny Valley road, to Corry; there, take the Atlantic and Great Western Railway for Carrolton, where there is a branch railroad for this point DOT.

The quantity of coal sent from the Schuylkill region for the past week was 61,454 tons, against 4,717 tons for the same period of last year; increase 56,737 tons. The quantity for the year so far is 448,915 tons, against 401,210 tons for the corresponding period of last year; increase, 47,705 tons. The quantity sent from all the regions for the week, was: Anthracite, 298,559 tons; bituminous, 49,353 tons—total, 347,910 tons; against 138,460 tons anthracite and 42,128 tons bituminous—total, 180,588 tons for the corresponding period of last year. Increase of anthracite, 160,097 tons; increase of bituminous, 7,225 tons; total increase, 167,322 tons. The quantity sent from all the regions for the year was: Anthracite, 1,926,865 tons; bituminous, 264,654 tons—total, 2,208,019 tons; against 1,365,795 tons anthracite, and 215,454 tons bituminous—total, 1,581,249 tons for the corresponding period of last year; increase of anthracite, 567,570 tons; increase of bituminous, 49,200 tons; total increase, 616,770 tons.—*Pottsville Journal, 11th.*

The machine shop and foundry of Douglas, Freeman & Co., at Warren, O., started up on Monday.

BY TELEGRAPH.

PLYMOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

Mr. Shearman States the Case.

THE PASTOR FACETIOUS, AS USUAL.

Discussion as to the Extent of the Inquiry to be Made.

NEW YORK, February 16, 1876.

PLYMOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL.

The officers of the Advisory Council called by Plymouth Church were improperly telegraphed last night. Rev. Leonard Bacon, D.D., of New Haven, was elected Moderator, and ex-Governor Nelson Dingley, of Maine, and General Bates, of Illinois, Assistant Moderators.

The exercises to-day began by singing the hymn "I Love Thy